

Austin College

Magazine Winter 2011



Zainab Salbi 2011 Posey Leadership Award Winner

Roots and Branches

*"If you bring the warmth of the sun to them,
they will open and bring forth form, color, perfume to you,
If you become the ailment and the wet,
they will become flowers, fruit, tall branches, and trees."*

--Walt Whitman, "Roots and Leaves Themselves Alone"

For me, strategic planning begins with poetry; I need a guiding image to inspire my passion so that my right brain rational planner can get fully engaged.

And so our new plan, *Roots and Branches: A Strategic Direction for Austin College 2010-2014*, begins by citing the lovely words of Walt Whitman. To me they capture just what we want for our College. We want it to be the fertile atmosphere that nourishes our students (and our faculty, staff, and alumni too) so they may blossom and bloom.

You'll find our plan reproduced in these pages and I encourage you to read it closely and with a lovingly engaged eye. Invest yourself in our dreams and look for the places where the plan speaks to you and your passions for Austin College.

The plan was developed during a six-month period of intensive study and reflection involving students, faculty, staff, trustees, and alumni. In addition to the plan itself, we built a rolling five-year budget model to undergird it and have created (or are in the midst of creating) detailed implementation plans for each of the plan's planks. Our strategic plan isn't meant to reside in a file drawer. It will be front and center in our thinking, serving as our "to do" list during the upcoming months and years. You will see regular updates on our progress and our challenges.

This is a season for making resolutions and I'll share mine with you. In 2011, I'll be looking to make room for more "haiku moments." That is the phrase Haiku poets use to describe the revelatory *aha* of spirited awareness that inspires their work. A Haiku poem is the linguistic record of this fleeting moment of deep knowing. As with any state of

grace, that moment can't be willed or commanded. But certain life practices create an opening for its arrival: cultivating gratitude, paying attention, slowing down, savoring the present, talking with God. So my promise to myself in the upcoming months is to remember to practice those disciplines. It will be the perfect counterpoint to the flurry of activity inspired by our strategic plan and the ambitious goals we have set for Austin College.

I would love to hear about your resolutions and your hopes for Austin College in the upcoming year. Join the conversation on our Austin College Facebook page, send me a note, come for a visit. We would love to hear from you.

And by the way, our tree planting has not been purely metaphorical. Thanks to generous gifts from the Jordan family, Betsy Forster, and Todd and Abby Williams, we have a new North Mall connecting the Forster Arts Complex, the Jordan Family Language House, and the site of our new residential Village on Grand to the campus. The mall has been planted with 76 new trees. We will pray for the warmth of the sun to shine upon them so they may, as Whitman reminds us, bring forth form, color, and perfume.

Larry, Jessica, and Cameron (and Biscuit) join me in wishing every blessing to our Austin College friends and family.

Gratefully,

Marjorie Hass, President
Austin College





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When President Marjorie Hass arrived at Austin College as president, she brought her own kind of magic. Her arrival also brought magic in the form of her husband, Larry, a professor of philosophy who happens to be an accomplished professional magician.

14 Come to Austin College. See the World.

Austin College long has been established as a leader in international study. Turns out that over the past 10 years students have visited 99 countries on six continents. Art installed in Wright Campus Center during summer 2010 shows the range of student travel.

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Teach For America places top college students in teaching positions in some of the country's most challenging schools. Austin College alumni who have been—and are—among those teachers share their experiences.

22 2011 Posey Leadership Award Winner: Zainab Salbi

Austin College will present the 2011 Posey Leadership Award to Women for Women International founder Zainab Salbi for her work with women survivors of war.

26 Unfathomed Adventures

Brandon McInnis '08 started out in opera and then found a niche as a Japanese pop singer before starting an All-American rock band.

28 Writing Her Own Stories

When Carmen Tafolla '72 was growing up, she did not find any books that showed Latina culture. Now an accomplished children's writer, she is making sure that's not true for future generations.

30 \$1 Million and Counting

The Austin College name was popping up in all sorts of national media this summer because of the accomplishments of incoming freshman Ben Sater, who reached his goal of raising \$1 million for Scottish Rite Hospital.

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Housing Construction Expands Campus

Austin College juniors and seniors will have additional campus housing options in fall 2011, thanks to a new partnership between the College and a private consortium called Kangaroo Housing Investors, L.L.C.

Construction began in October on two projects that will add housing options for nearly 200 students. The three-story Flats at Brockett Court will provide additional suite-style housing, west of the Robert M. and Joyce Johnson 'Roo Suites.

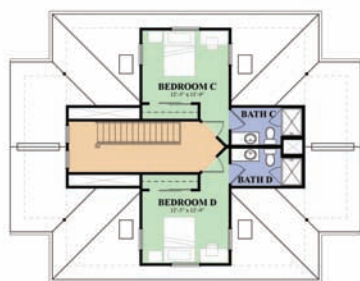
Twenty-four two-story cottages, The Village on Grand, are under construction on the west side of Grand Avenue and both the east and west sides of Luckett Street. For both projects, all housing will front the main thoroughfares, with ample parking behind the structures.

Tim Millerick, who as vice president for Student Affairs oversees residential life, is particularly excited about how this will strengthen the student experience for everyone. "This project will extend the intentional nature of our housing program that allows our students to move from traditional to independent living arrangements while at Austin College. Even more, it will enrich the campus culture by the greater number of juniors and seniors we anticipate will be attracted to this housing option."

The project is being managed by **Ron Cibulka** '74. All costs and guaranties are assumed by members of the Consortium; however, Austin College has the option to purchase the units at their cost.

"That we have a third-party partner in this long-term commitment demonstrates the continued support we have from our friends for such strategic initiatives," said President **Marjorie Hass**. "As a result, the College's resources are better able to support our students and faculty and the educational mission. This arrangement also allows us to maintain our financial capacity to continue other capital projects."

See more details online: www.austincollege.edu/housing



SECOND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR



UNIT D-1

Floor plans for the Village (left) and The Flats (right) illustrate four-bedroom, suite-style living arrangements

DORCHESTER

CRAYCROFT

BLEDSE

HURT

LUCKETT

RICHARDS

GRAND AVENUE



The Village on Grand

Flats at Brockett Court

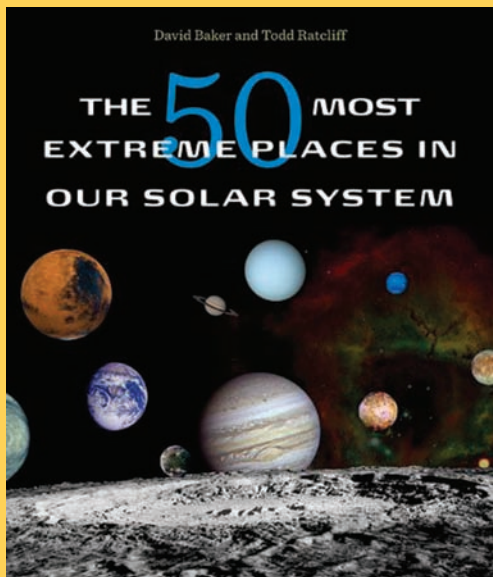


BROCKETT

GRAND AVENUE

faculty bookshelf

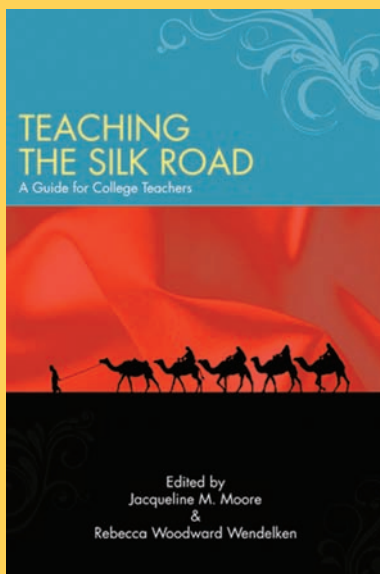
Austin College faculty members are prolific writers and researchers. Here are some of their recent publications.



David Baker, Austin College associate professor of physics, takes teaching to extremes—extreme places that is. He and Todd Ratcliff, planetary geophysicist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, have written *The 50 Most Extreme Places in Our Solar System*.

"We discovered fascinating things when researching this book—like lightning bolts on Earth are only the thickness of a banana, while superbolts produced during thunderstorms on Saturn may be as wide as the Eiffel Tower," Baker said. "Writing this book restored our sense of wonder by reminding us just how strange, exotic, and beautiful our sun, its eight planets (sorry, Pluto), many planetoids, and rocky asteroid belt really are."

The 50 Most Extreme Places in Our Solar System explores extreme regions on Earth and beyond—giant turbulent storms, explosive volcanoes, and the possibility of life surviving in harsh conditions. The book fuses the human fascination with extreme natural events and the allure of outer space by reporting new scientific discoveries and presenting images from NASA's most recent observations.



Jacqueline Moore, Austin College professor of history, is editor of a book, *Teaching the Silk Road*, released in June 2010.

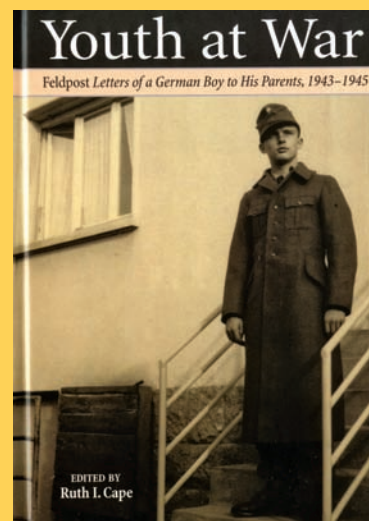
The book, intended to help educators better teach students about China's Silk Road trade routes, advocates a global, rather than Eurocentric, perspective. The Silk Road, which existed from 200 BCE to the 1500s AD, can be used as an early example of globalization. The book is "intended for those who are not Silk Road or Asian specialists but who wish to embrace a global history and civilizations perspective in teaching," the book synopsis says.

Teaching the Silk Road is published through SUNY Press, and is available in hardcover and paperback editions.

Ruth Cape, Austin College assistant professor of German, translated and edited a book released in November 2010. *Youth at War: Feldpost Letters of a German Boy to His Parents, 1943–1945* is a bilingual German and English annotated edition of a large collection of letters and postcards written by a German boy between September 1943 and February 1945.

The book chronicles 140 letters and postcards of Gerhard G., one of Germany's youngest soldiers in World War II. He was only 15 years old when he joined the German Flak, an anti-aircraft gun unit that defended Germany against aerial attacks. He also served in the compulsory national labor service for young men and women and in the German Navy, until becoming an American prisoner of war in 1945.

The book is published by Peter Lang Publishing, Inc.



Julie Hempel, Austin College associate professor of Spanish, translated the book, *La Muerte ... puros cuentos*, into English while on sabbatical in Mexico during 2008–2009. Written by Mexican visual and performance artist Erik de Luna, the book is a discussion of Mexican culture's personification of death. The title translates to "Death ... Just Stories."

The book features 100 short texts and images which depict 100 names that Mexicans use to refer to the ever-present figure of death in the current cultural landscape.

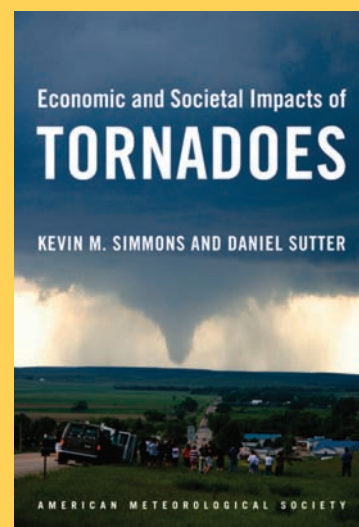
The bilingual edition was released in October 2010. Publication of the book was funded by the Autonomous University of Querétaro, the Institute of Culture and Art, and the Secretary of Education in the State of Querétaro.



Kevin Simmons, Austin College Corrigan Chair of Economics, is the co-author of a new book, *Economic and Societal Impacts of Tornadoes*, to be released in mid-January 2011 by the American Meteorological Society.

For nearly 10 years, Simmons and colleague Daniel Sutter, co-author, have studied the social and economic consequences of the approximately 1,200 tornadoes that touch down each year. They have compiled data from the U.S. Census and the national Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to examine the damage caused and to evaluate the National Weather Service effort to reduce this damage. This book provides their analysis, which will be helpful to those in emergency disaster management.

Simmons, a member of the Austin College faculty since 2003, was selected as a Fulbright Scholar for 2009–2010 and spent the first six months of 2010 working with the International Center for Geohazards in Oslo, Norway.



Recharged Research



Jeff Czajkowski

Austin College Assistant Professor of Economics **Jeff Czajkowski** has received a post-doctoral research fellowship at the Risk Management and Decision Process Center at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania for spring and summer 2011.

He studies the economics of natural hazard risks, particularly hurricanes. Wharton has a risk management program that focuses on catastrophic risk management, including natural hazards.

"I'll be working with some of the brightest minds in the field of economics on a daily basis," Czajkowski said. "This was an opportunity I couldn't pass up—to work with top scholars and to recharge my research efforts. What I learn there will certainly help my research and teaching when I get back," he said, noting it will have a particular impact on his work with student researchers. In his three years at Austin College, he has mentored three economics students as they prepared honors research projects.

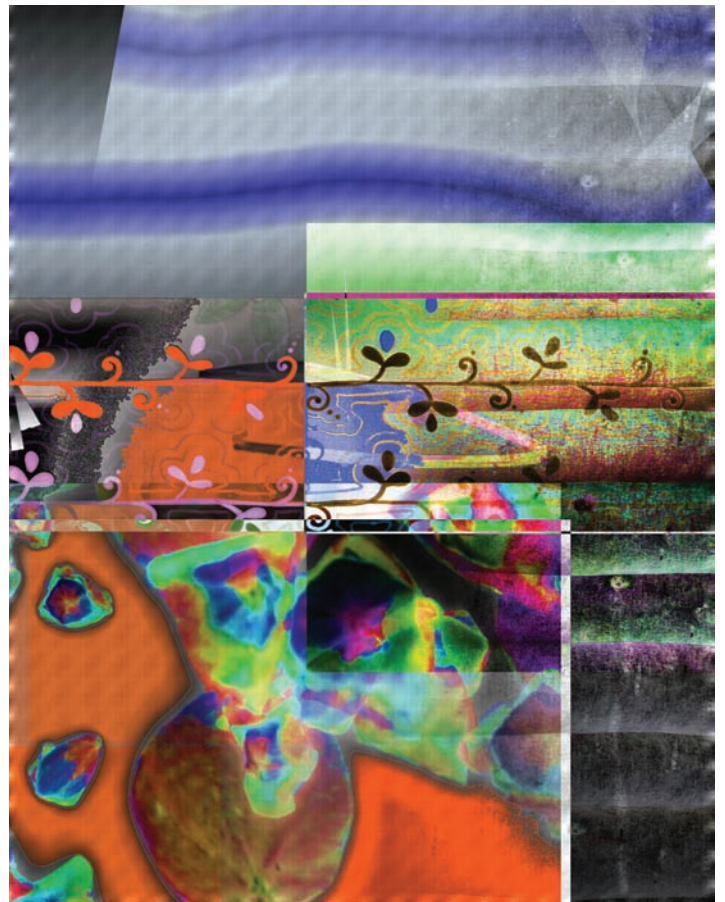
David Griffith, chair of the Austin College Economics and Business Department, said department faculty are pleased with this honor. "Jeff's selection by a premier research university confirms that Austin College can support the development of great teachers who also are nationally competitive scholars."

INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES ON ART

Professor of Art **Mark S. Smith** is one of six international artists whose work will be included in the exhibit "Art on paper: An international perspective" at the acclaimed Toyota Municipal Art Museum in Toyota, Japan, from February 1 through March 29, 2011.

The museum is a celebrated contemporary building designed by the architect Yoshio Taniguchi of Harvard University. Ryoza Mosishita of the graduate school of Architecture and Design at Nagoya City University is curator for the exhibit.

Smith's new works are mixed media painting on unique handmade paper made by his wife, sculptor Corky Stuckenbruck, a professor at Texas Woman's University. The paper is made of 100 percent native Texas blue stem prairie grass.



*"Robot Flower 1
on handmade paper"*

asian immersion

Typhoons and mountain vistas aren't normally part of the daily routine for Austin College Professor of History **Jacqueline Moore**. This academic year, however, her days include many differences from her schedule in Sherman. She is spending the year at Hong Kong Baptist University as a Fulbright Scholar, teaching history and helping university officials and faculty there work through a curriculum reform project.

Moore became interested in Asia as a college student, perhaps, she said, because it seemed "exotic and different at the time." She studied two years of Mandarin Chinese in graduate school, minored in Chinese history, and studied Japanese history. At Austin College, Moore was appointed director of Asian Studies and led the program until 2007, helping to develop an Asian Studies major and minor.

In this, her fourth trip to Hong Kong, Moore said the continent seems "less exotic and different, but still fascinating."

Moore is one of about 1,100 U.S. faculty and professionals abroad through the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program for 2010-2011, selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement, as well as leadership potential in their fields. The international educational exchange program is designed to increase mutual understanding between people of the United States and of other countries.

"Since I am not teaching classes until the spring, I have spent most of my fall working with the team of Fulbright scholars advising on the General Education curriculum reform project," Moore said. Schools there are making the transition from a British education model to a more American model, which will involve more courses outside the major.

Moore said the reason for the change is a "perception that Hong Kong students, while still competitive in the job market, are falling behind other students in broader skills necessary for a global economy." Hong Kong Baptist University is positioning itself to be the liberal arts college of the system, and Moore has helped create curriculum and worked with its Center for Holistic Teaching and Learning to train professors in course design.

Throughout the fall, she also spoke at several universities, including some in southern mainland China and Mongolia. She took time away in December to speak at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, New Zealand. Burma is on her spring travel itinerary to prepare for future JanTerm classes.

"I always have found that looking at a different culture gives you fresh perspectives on your own. I also look forward to finding the common interests between us and eating some really good rice noodles!" Moore joked before leaving Texas.

"On a more personal level, I have joined the University Choir, which has around 150 members and will perform the Beethoven Mass in the spring. I also have begun taking a survival Cantonese class and hope to

at least learn how to order dim sum," she said. "Last night I had dinner at the dai pai dong—the local open air restaurant stalls—with an Australian artist, a British journalism professor, a Pakistani historian, and a Chinese civil servant, with one of the menu items being fried pigeon (which actually is quite good). Where else but Hong Kong?"





Bless Those Choir Alumni

Let a few strains of “The Lord Bless You and Keep You” be heard and Austin College A Cappella Choir alumni, wherever they are, immediately recall their college days and may—loudly or softly as the situation merits—join the singing. Throughout the summer, those alumni heard and answered another call.

Wayne Crannell, associate professor of music and director of choral music at Austin College, sent out a request for gifts in support of a new set of 65 choir robes at a cost of approximately \$12,000. A mailing or two and several Facebook postings later, the funding push ended. The results? The choir debuted its lovely new robes at the Homecoming worship service in October, as shown by current choir members.

Unplugged!

Austin College students in Baker, Dean, Caruth, and Clyce residence halls were challenged to flip the switch and unplug appliances in fall 2010 in a residence hall competition to reduce energy use as part of the Think Green initiative launched on campus last spring.

During the “AC Unplugged” challenge, September 30 through October 28, students were encouraged to reduce their electricity consumption. The residents that most reduced building electricity consumption from usage levels a year ago selected a charity to which the amount of savings was donated; percentages of savings from the other halls also were donated to charities of residents’ choice. Savings beyond the charity donations became part of the general College budget.

Dean Hall residents won the challenge, cutting electricity consumption by just over 17 percent from last year. They donated \$500 to the Greater Texoma Health Clinic. Baker Hall came in second, donating to Big Brothers/Big Sisters, followed by Caruth, donating to Habitat for Humanity, and Clyce, Sherman Crisis Center.

Throughout the challenge, residence assistants encouraged students to reduce their consumption by turning off electrical devices when they weren’t in use; making sure nothing was plugged in or turned on (including computer and cell phone battery chargers, TVs, or even empty refrigerators) when they left the halls; studying or playing outside or in public spaces where electricity already was in use; or by organizing social events where electricity was shared by many people at once.

Austin College Magic

Larry Hass, professor of humanities and husband of President **Marjorie Hass**, brought his own special magic to Austin College through the “Theory and Art of Magic” series last spring, hosting on campus some of the world’s most famous and influential magicians. The series continues with two special events in February.

On Thursday, February 10, “Magic: The Secret Art” will be presented on campus, starring Jeff McBride and Eugene Burger, joined on stage by Hass. The full-evening, Las Vegas-style magic show suitable for all ages will be presented at 7:30 p.m. in Ida Green Theatre of Ida Green Communication Center. Tickets are \$3 for Austin College faculty, students, and staff, and \$10 for the general public.

On Friday, February 11, at 6:30 p.m., Hass and his magical friends will offer “The Love of Magic” at the Park City Club in Dallas for a special Austin College fundraising event in support of scholarships for students in the arts. The evening will include a dinner banquet, after which guests will move through three rooms for up-close magic shows with each of the performers. The performances will be distinctly different than the on-campus show. Tickets for the Dallas event are limited and are \$150 each.

To Purchase Tickets:

February 10 Campus Event: Tickets may be purchased from Carolyn Cranford by telephone with \$15 minimum credit card purchase at 903.813.2281 and in person in Ida Green Communication Center Room 103 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday beginning January 2. For more information, please contact Cranford at ccranford@austincollege.edu.

February 11 Dallas Event: Tickets may be purchased online at www.acalumni.org. For more information, please contact Penni Ruegg at pruegg@austincollege.edu or 903.813.2778.



Marking Milestones

The Austin College ACTivators celebrated the 15th year of the program in spring 2010—and students soon will celebrate again, as the mobile youth ministry team leads its 500th event in late January.

The team has a large role in planning and leading the 2011 Grace Presbytery Senior High Youth Connection (SHYC) on the Austin College campus January 28-30. Approximately 750 senior high youth and adult sponsors will arrive on campus for a weekend of fellowship, Bible Study, music, small group discussions, dancing, and other fun.

Since its beginning in February 1995, the ACTivators program has thus far involved 441 Austin College students who have traveled over 143,000 miles to help plan and lead 499 ministry events involving over 41,000 children, youth, college students, and adults.

Read more about the beginnings and history of the ACTivators in the March 2010 *AColyte*, written by chaplain **John Williams '84**, at www.austincollege.edu/religiouslife.



ACTivators Rachel Dodd '11 and Bridgette Deem '12

Keeping Score of Alumni Success

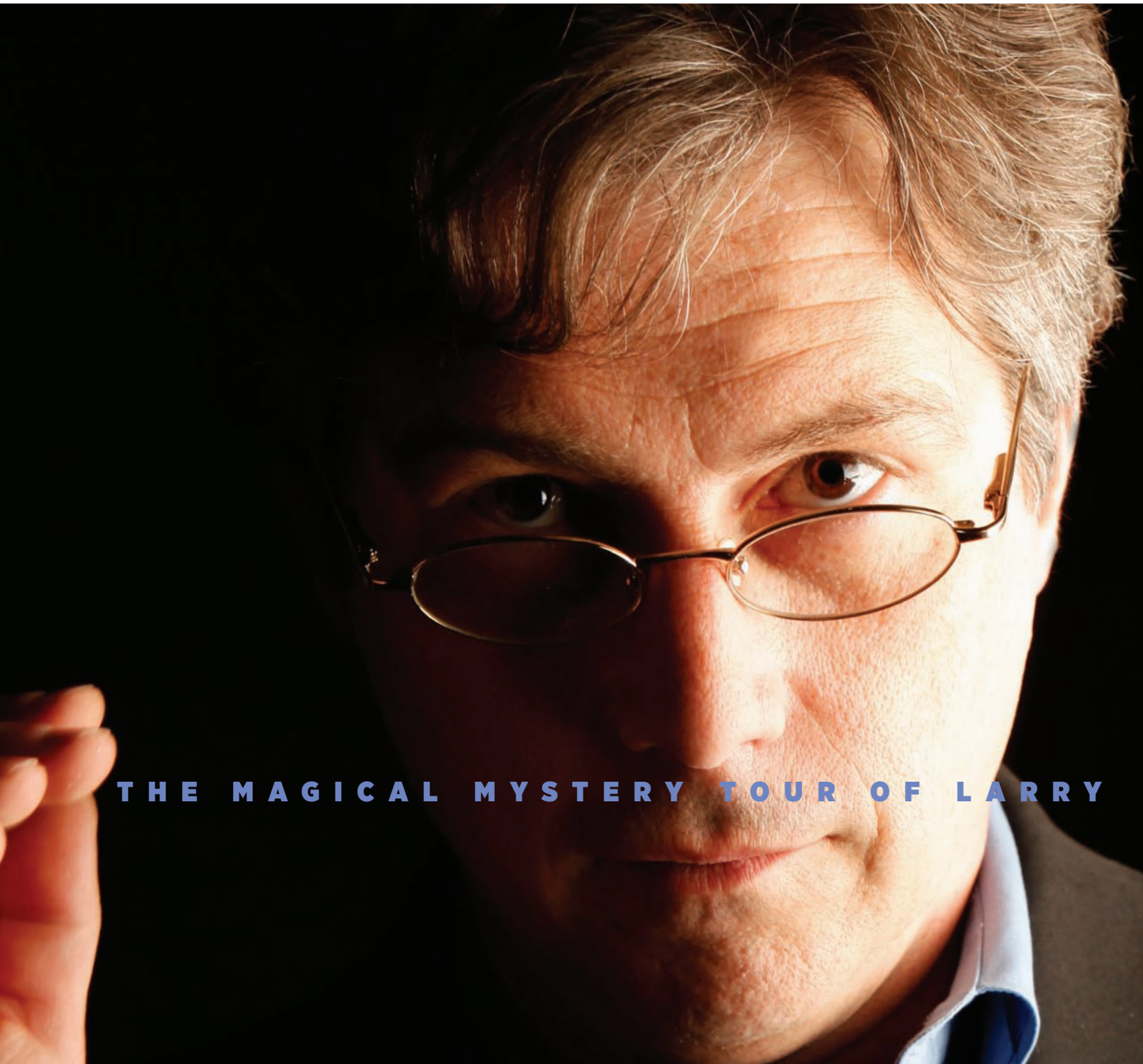
Austin College dedicated the new **Gene “Duke” Babb** scoreboard prior to the football game on September 11, 2010, with a very surprised Babb '57 in attendance. Several alumni gifts made the scoreboard and its announcement possible. Babb came to campus to do the game-opening coin toss and only after several minutes on the field did he see the addition to the playing area.

After four years on the Kangaroo squad, Babb played for the San Francisco 49ers, the Dallas Cowboys, and the Houston Oilers before turning his skills to coaching at Austin College, Southern Methodist University, and Oklahoma State University. He later was a professional scout for the Atlanta Falcons and joined National Football Scouting, Inc., in 1982.

Involved in several community service events through the NFL Alumni Association, Babb has been an active Austin College alumnus and was inducted into the College's Athletic Hall of Honor in 1969 and was named a Distinguished Alumnus in 2005.



Bill Harris '60 and Duke Babb '57



THE MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR OF LARRY

by Megan Kinkade

"No way!" ∞ That's the response Larry Hass is hoping to receive. The charismatic professor of philosophy will study for months and practice for hours to elicit that moment of mind-bending astonishment. "No way. My mind cannot understand that! There's no way that is possible!" ∞ And Larry, husband of Austin College President Marjorie Hass, is very good at getting that response. He is an internationally famous magician.

H A S S

Larry specializes in close-up magic: magic that happens up-close and personal. There are no big mysterious boxes or rabbits-from-hats or spangled overcoats. His work is nothing like the camera shots of television magicians such as Criss Angel, or the banalities of Uncle Bob who likes to pull quarters from childrens's ears.

Instead, Larry performs magic with meaning, with philosophical musings and rich stories, magic that makes people say "No way!"

"The kind of magic I do is not 'mediated' by television, by boxes, by the artifices of the stage," Larry says. "It happens with the audience right there, seeing and touching everything I use. With this kind of interactive performing style, people have no easy explanations, and this makes the experience of magic much, much stronger for them."

With a pack of cards, simple props, and the flash of his engaging smile, Larry shares magical stories and reminders about the gifts of life, lingering memories of the dead, and the daily magic that every individual performs.

That is what makes his style unique, whether he is entertaining an audience of one or 1,000: Larry presents himself a philosopher-magician, a magician-philosopher; he performs in a way that straddles the academic and entertainment worlds. He feels it is his calling to show academics and magicians alike that magic is a profound art form that is worthy of individuals' deepest attention.

Larry was born on a farm in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and his family moved to Idaho as factory work shut down in Wisconsin. He began college in Idaho, transferred to a school in Wisconsin, then dropped out to move to California. While working at odd jobs there, he took classes intermittently; the first person in his family to attend college, he felt a little lost in the academic world. "I took the 'scenic route' through college. I knew it was important, but just didn't know how to do it," Larry says.

In 1983, he moved back to Wisconsin and enrolled as a junior at Ripon College, an excellent small liberal arts college. Ripon opened his eyes. "I finally understood the power of graduating. I understood the power of the liberal arts education. It really transformed my life," he says. "I discovered philosophy, and immediately knew that I wanted to share the life-

changing education I had at Ripon. My eye was on the ball, and the ball eventually was to graduate with a Ph.D. so I could teach philosophy at the college level."

After graduating from Ripon College at 25, he was accepted into the Ph.D. program in philosophy at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. There he met Marjorie, also a philosophy student; they married in 1987. In 1991, Larry graduated from the University of Illinois with his doctorate of philosophy. "It was totally euphoric," he said. "To complete this long educational path after so many years and detours was really unbelievable to me." That fall, Larry was hired as a tenure-track assistant professor at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pennsylvania. (Marjorie was hired too, but that is a different story.)

When he started doing magic in 1994, Larry kept it to himself.

After seeing a magic special on television, Larry found himself deeply intrigued by magic, but he didn't know how to proceed. After all, how did doing "card tricks" fit with the respectability of being a philosophy professor?

It became clearer when Larry started haunting one of Chicago's historic magic shops. He browsed around, unsure even of what he was looking for. He'd buy a pre-made trick, tinker with it in private, and return the next week, unsatisfied. Finally, a clerk pointed him to the backroom—a room full of the great and secret literature of magic. "As a scholar, I knew what to do with books, so I read a lot of magic and started learning all the techniques they described, especially with playing cards," Larry said. "And I learned the essential skills about how to present magic so that it was interesting to people." And so, all the pieces fell into place.



Larry Hass, left, poses with his mentor and fellow magician Eugene Burger.

"Larry literally was spending a lot of time in the walk-in closet in the place we were staying that summer, and then one day, he came out, said, 'pick a card' and blew my mind," Marjorie said.

"Why does magic feel good? Why isn't it terrifying? It is bizarre that human beings create impossible things, and it is bizarre that we enjoy it," Larry says, the mingling of the philosopher and the magician evident.

"Great thinkers about art, such as Aristotle and Kant, had no understanding of magic," he continues. "But once I saw the distinctive character of magical art, the doors had been blown open for me. Magic creates an extraordinary aesthetic experience that great scholars of art have completely ignored. So, I had both a scholarly interest and an artistic interest in magic. It wasn't enough to conceptualize magic. I wanted to make it for other people. That required essentially post-doctorate training in magic."

Because of his philosophical approach, Larry has become prominent in the magical world—in fall 2010, he performed for the third time at the world-famous Magic Castle in Hollywood, a swanky nightclub that is one of the world's leading centers for magic.

This approach can be seen in his book, *Transformations* (not available to the non-magical public), in which Larry explains not only the technical manipulations behind a magical piece but also the theatrical and emotional setups to make it effective and astonishing.

Larry writes, "Creating an emotional experience is an essential component of having an audience at all. So how can I inspire life emotions with a deck of cards or a handful of coins?"

His friend and mentor, master magician Eugene Burger, said this thoughtfulness is what makes Larry great.

"Larry is a very bright guy," Burger said. "I think he also has a sensitivity to artistic subjects and looking at the philosophical questions of all that. Some of the things he is interested in are rather offbeat for the general public, and it is fun to meet people like that—if they don't scare you." But Larry doesn't frighten his audiences: "He's a very warm, loving person."

Larry's distinctive take on magical phenomenon has helped his career skyrocket. He writes monthly essays for the leading magic magazines; he is an author and a publisher of instructional books for magicians; he performs at diverse venues such as Austin College and Las Vegas nightclubs; he teaches courses in Las Vegas to professional and amateur magicians from all over the world; and he was the first person to offer college-level courses on magical theory.

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At Muhlenberg College, his "Theory and Art of Magic" classes, which brought in professional magicians to discuss their work while encouraging students to develop their own magical style, were groundbreaking. The final exam was a fully developed performance, critiqued by professional magicians.

"That program became internationally known and achieved notoriety in the subculture of magic," Larry said. "I suppose it was my breakthrough. I became widely known as a magic scholar and teacher, and also as a philosopher who does magic."

Continuing his commitment to educating people about magic, Larry brought Eugene Burger and Andrew Goldenhersh to Austin College in spring 2009 as part of a "Theory and Art of Magic" series through which, in the future, he hopes to offer performances from time to time. This academic year, Larry is not teaching; rather, he is taking time to focus on both his magic career and his role as

first gentleman of the College.

"I really love traveling with Marjorie to meet alumni," he says. "I love hearing about what they connected with at the College. I have so many experiences in higher education that the College's interests are truly my interests."

Austin College has been receptive to Larry's dual careers. A group of alumni, led by trustee chair **Bob Johnson** '53, attended an impromptu "Austin College Night" at the Magic Castle in Hollywood when Larry performed there in 2009. His performance career has been a complement to Marjorie's presidency.

"Austin College has been so welcoming to me in all my colors. It was part of how we knew the College would be a good fit for our family. Austin College community members knew they were getting a president with a spouse who is a performer. I think they knew it isn't just a hobby for me, but part of my career," he says.

For Larry, magic and philosophy are more than his careers. They are his passions. "He follows his passions more than anyone I've ever met," Marjorie said. "When you do that, success is much easier than when you're following someone else's script. I've learned a lot about that from him. I don't know that I would have had the courage to make my own career shift without Larry's example."

"Find your passions and live them," Larry advises. "Don't let others decide your path for you. Don't let too many voices of reality kill that passion. If we can live our passions, then our lives really do become magical." 🎨

COME TO AUSTIN COLLEGE SEE THE WORLD



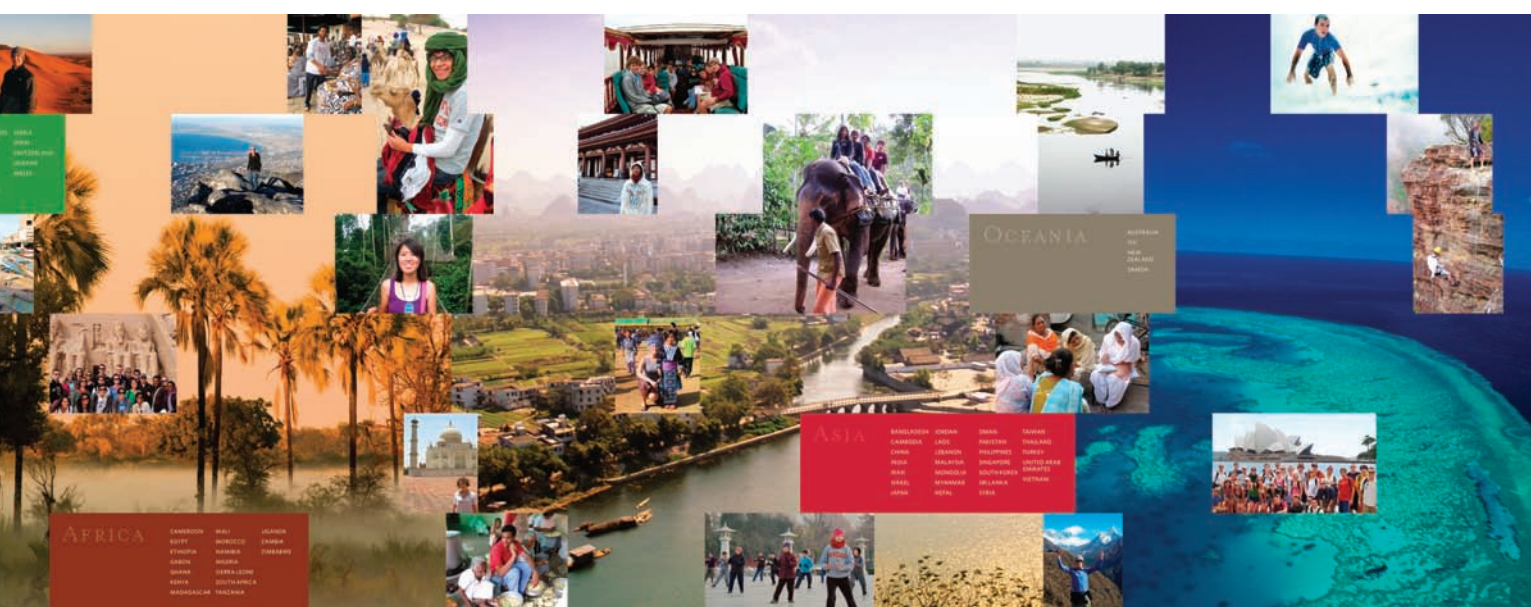
The global experiences of Austin College students now are featured on a stunning 6-foot-by-30-foot wall installation in the Wright Campus Center. The GO! Gallery Wall, created through the generosity of the Todd and Abby Williams Family Foundation of Dallas, highlights photos of students taken during their trips abroad.

International education has long been a priority of Austin College. In the past 10 years, more than 70 percent of Austin College graduates have traveled abroad as part of their studies. Between January Term courses, internships, independent study, study abroad semesters, and service trips, few schools the size of Austin College offer a greater emphasis on global education.

The GO! Gallery Wall, spanning the main lobby of Wright Campus Center, features scenic photos provided by students and faculty. The montage represents many of the 99 countries—enumerated in listings by region—that students have visited

during those years. Powerful images of landscapes, culture, and people evoke a yearning for exotic destinations.

During January Term 2011, over 200 students are traveling the world to destinations including Argentina, China, Costa Rica, England, France, Guatemala, Italy, Morocco, Spain, and Taiwan. The faculty-led courses cover topics as diverse as a course on London theatre, and study of Taiwan's political environment, and "Turkey: Layers of History." 🗺️



Find out more about Austin College GO! programs at www.austincollege.edu/globaloutreach





by Megan Kinkade

Teach for America

Every spring, Austin College graduates combine their greatest academic and cocurricular achievements, and place all their preparation into competition for admission into the best medical and law schools, the most prestigious graduate schools, and promising careers. But every year, a few Austin College students compete for job placement for which they have little formal training at all: classroom teaching positions at some of the poorest schools in the country through Teach For America assignments.

Last spring, several major news outlets reported that Teach For America is more selective in its selections than an Ivy League school. For 2010-2011, the program received a record 46,000 applications, but TFA accepted only 12 percent.

Austin College alumni meet their standards: Since 1996, 21 Austin College alumni have joined Teach For America. Six Austin College alumni currently are in the corps and others have taught in Bay Area, Greater New Orleans, Houston, Indianapolis, Memphis, the Mid-Atlantic (Philadelphia and Camden), the Mississippi Delta, New York City, the Rio Grande Valley, San Antonio, South Louisiana, and St. Louis.

Teach For America began as a senior research paper at Princeton University in 1989. Founder Wendy Kopp believed that college graduates wanted more options to give back to society, and, at 21, raised \$2.5 million to start Teach For America.

In 1990, with a skeleton crew, TFA led 500 men and women to begin teaching in six low-income communities. Now, more than 8,200 TFA teachers are in classrooms around the nation, and more than 20,000 are TFA alumni.

At the foundation of Teach For America is the idea that students should not suffer educational inequalities caused by socioeconomic factors such as poverty, race, or language barriers at home. According to Teach For America, only 10 percent of students growing up in poverty will make it through college.

"We're motivated because we see educational inequality as one of the most pressing issues," said Kaitlin Gastrock, TFA spokesperson. "It's a social justice issue as well as a concrete problem to be addressed."

This difference between the poor and the wealthy is known as the "achievement gap." Teach For America's method of filling this gap is to train high-achieving college students in an intensive summer teaching program and assign them to low-performing schools for a two-year term of service. TFA provides the training and

support, and the school district pays the salary and benefits of the new teacher.

Teach For America is having an impact. According to the *Wall Street Journal*, a 2008 Urban Institute study found that "on average, high school students taught by TFA corps members performed significantly better on state-required end-of-course exams, especially in math and science, than peers taught by far more experienced instructors." The TFA teachers' effect on student achievement in core classroom subjects was nearly three times the effect of teachers with three or more years of experience, according to the study.

TFA's goal is not to have every corps member become a permanent teacher, though many do. By putting high-achievers in low-income areas, the hope is that memories of the experience will stay with those who serve as they go on to become business leaders, politicians, or simply concerned voters. In that way, Teach For America seeks to make long-term changes to the American education system.

"We're looking to infuse the system with a lot more great, dedicated, effective teachers. But they also commit to go on and become lifetime leaders," said Gastrock.

Because of her far-reaching goals and dedicated servant leadership, TFA founder Wendy Kopp was Austin College's inaugural recipient in 2006 of what is now known as the Posey Leadership Award.



Nicole Moore '08 taught English as a Second Language in Memphis, Tennessee. Read the story online at www.austincollege.edu/teachforamerica

*Every Teach For America experience is different, but all are powerful.
These alumni shared the joys and challenges of their service.*

JUSTIN COPPEDGE '07 joined Teach For America rather than immediately attend medical school after completing his degree in biology. "I'd always thought I'd want to be a teacher at some point, but I thought it was something I'd do at the end of my career," he said.

Placement: Charles Sumner High School in St. Louis, the oldest African-American school west of the Mississippi, where Justin teaches high school biology. He has taught several grades, organized an after-school tutoring program, and started a community garden.

Difficult Moment: "We had a shooting, either on school property or on the street touching the school, every year," Justin said. One shooting involved a football player, shot while he was walking to practice.

After the shooting, "we had large riots and the use of mace on students, and 30 to 40 students were running all over, covered in mace. It became a volatile situation," and the school nearly closed. The school reopened in fall 2010 after a change in leadership. Half the teachers were not hired back.

Currently: Justin continued teaching at Sumner High School. He recently earned his master's degree in education through a TFA program at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, as well as a teaching certification in biology.

"This will probably be my last year in the classroom, so I'd like to get involved in some kind of school- and district-level school improvement work. I'm also considering pursuing becoming a principal or getting experience in the for-profit sector first," he said. "One of the downsides of being an Austin College graduate is I have a lot of interests."

Of Note: "Somehow we have an interesting mix where we don't have basic supplies"—only one sink works, half the electrical plugs don't function, and windows are missing blinds—"but then we have equipment that students don't need in graduate-level study."

"It's been a privilege to know my students and to see them progress over the course of a year or two years. It's exciting to see them 'get it,' get excited about coming to school, change how they respond in class—where they used to be disruptive or apathetic, now they're attentive."



HOLLY BOERNER '09 served at an orphanage in Ethiopia as a Global Outreach Fellow. The psychology and sociology double major learned about inequalities in the American school system, and "thinking about how so many similar problems exist here, I felt that I could hopefully do something here, too," she said.

Placement: Fall Creek Academy in Indianapolis, Indiana, a kindergarten through 12th grade school. Her first year, she helped the lowest-performing second through fifth graders individually work on their reading. This year, she is working with first through fourth grades.

Difficult Moment: Students had to take the Indiana state tests, but couldn't read the tests. "They were being assessed on grade-level skills without being able to read at their grade level," Holly said.

Sometimes she woke up at 4 a.m., worked at school from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and then stayed for tutoring and extracurriculars. "I was going to bed later than I would ever hope for anyone," she said.



Future Plans: Holly is unsure what her future holds; she'd like to work on the staff of Teach For America next year, but isn't sure she will stay in the classroom. "There's a lot up in the air right now," she said.

Of Note: "It's unreal. I don't think anyone can understand. Having these students in class was the only way I began to learn what the achievement gap really is," Holly said. "Every day just made me realize how much more attention we need to apply to the education system."

Holly had her students complete a self-report card at the end of the school year. One fifth grade student, who began the year reading at a first grade level, answered the question "what is one thing you feel proud of this year?" with "I got over my fear of reading to other people." Another question asked students to bubble in zero to three stars to respond to the phrase "I became a better reader this year."

"He added extra stars. He'd filled in six!" Holly said. "These kids believed in themselves in ways they hadn't before."

CATHERINE HARREN BARUFALDI '95 was the first Austin College graduate to join Teach For America, which began in 1990. After working for a year at Goldman Sachs, she found herself feeling called to service. "I was investigating the possibility of the Peace Corps, and my mom saw an ad for TFA in *Newsweek*," she said. "The idea was to 'give back' for a few years. It ended up setting me on my career path."

Placement: Fonville Middle School, Houston, Texas, where she taught sixth grade reading.

Difficult Moment: "I most remember the lack of books. I was supposed to teach sixth grade reading, and I had no books," Catherine said. "I had a lot of the basics; desk and chairs and a chalkboard with chalk and an overhead projector, but no books and no clarity on how to obtain books."

Currently: Managing director of staff for a public charter school network in Brooklyn, New York. "My whole career has been in underserved communities in education," she said.

Of Note: "I believe Austin College taught me to be a creative thinker and deepened my commitment to community service," she said. "There was an expectation through classroom discussions. Classroom discussions ended up talking about service to the community. Everything that happened was about our responsibility to our community and the planet. I never got the sense that this was all about 'how can I learn as much as I can so I can make a bunch of money for myself?' It was 'how can I be a better world participant?'"



fills that gap, and simultaneously motivates so many of us to stay involved in education and education reform. I meet TFA people all the time and they're all doing this kind of work. That's the purpose it serves."

See "In Other Words" on page 48 for more of Catherine's thoughts on education.

DUSTIN MORROW '00 joined Teach For America three years after graduating with a degree in American studies. "I never really wanted to be a teacher. I understand now that it was because I had so few good teachers," Dustin said. "When I read about TFA, I realized that these guys did not view teaching as a profession or a vocation—teaching is a mission. Ultimately, the mission is about making the world more just for those who have done nothing to deserve injustice. That's an easy cause for me to get behind."

Placement: Indianola, Mississippi, at Lockard Elementary, a kindergarten through eighth grade school. Though he was hired to teach middle school social studies, the school wasn't adequately covering enough classes, and his assignment changed. He taught math to sixth graders, science to another sixth grade class, and combined reading and writing to two groups of seventh grade students. The next year he added a reading and writing section in sixth grade as well.



Difficult Moment: "We were told that our kids might be two or three years behind their peers around the country. Many of my students were five and six years behind," Dustin said. "One of my best students began the seventh grade reading at the second-grade level. He was alliterate. Not illiterate—a person lacking the skills. He was alliterate—a person possessing the skills but lacking the practice."

Currently: High school English teacher at Methodist Children's Home in Waco, Texas, a residential facility for kids who have trouble at home. He also is a Ph.D. student in Baylor's literature program, and volunteers with Teach For America. "I am working on a Ph.D. because I ultimately want to return to the Mississippi Delta to work in teacher training at the university level," he said.

Of Note: "People say some kids can't learn. People say some kids should be left behind. That no matter what you do, some kids just won't get it. Teach For America has proven for more than 20 years that these old philosophies of learning are flawed," Dustin said.

"I would want Austin College to have a long and illustrious relationship with TFA. I think we have the kinds of leaders TFA needs," he said.

MELISSA FONTENOT FRANCIK '03 had a family friend who had worked with Teach For America, so was eager to participate herself. "I had always wanted to be a teacher and longed to serve others who needed my help," said Melissa, a double major in Spanish and biology.

Placement: Houston, Texas. "The school appeared very run-down and the perimeter was completely surrounded by barbed wire. The student bathrooms were dark, cemented, and flooded frequently," she said. "Paint literally fell off the walls when I tried to hang positive posters and student work."

Difficult Moment:

Melissa was one of the first to arrive and leave school, staying for after-school tutoring until at least 5 p.m. every day. "In the evenings and weekends I planned for the next week, made parent phone calls (many positive), wrote positive notes to send home," she said. "My first year I taught four subjects and had to create four distinct lesson plans each day. It kept me very busy!"

Currently: Dietetic intern at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center in Houston, Texas, and graduate student at Texas Woman's University, studying nutrition. "I saw the childhood obesity and related health conditions such as Type 2 diabetes affecting the health of my students and their families in a negative way," Melissa said. "I wanted to combine my passion for teaching and nutrition."

Of Note: Teach For America is "on the cutting edge of education for the changing face of our nation. I gained leadership skills and learned how flexible and creative I am in the daily challenges of motivating my students who needed to know that they were capable of learning and being successful," Melissa said.

Read more stories from TFA alumni including **Holly George** '05, **Jesse Travis** '08, **Christine Denison** '06, and **Nicole Mittenfeller Carl** '06 at www.austincollege.edu/teachforamerica



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Teachers aren't the only employees of Teach For America. It takes a large staff to coordinate training, recruit bright prospects, and implement the program. For three years, **Sarah Horsch** '05 worked with TFA in its New York office.

Sarah, an English major, was teaching Spanish to third and fourth grade students in a private elementary school in Dallas, Texas, when Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans. She offered her bilingual skills to the Red Cross, and soon was working with displaced immigrants who had little to no English skills and had lost their documentation in the city's floods.

"It was a huge contrast for me. During the day I was working at a private school—I frequently sent students home in limousines. Then I would leave school and spend six more hours with a 4-year-old whose parents were working three jobs to pay the rent," she said. "I felt I needed to do something and my heart was much more with low-income people. That experience changed my way of thinking about my career path."

After consulting with her Austin College mentors, **Margie Briscoe Norman** '83, director of Career Services, and English professor **Roger Platizky**, Sarah researched Teach For America. She sent a general resume and hoped for the best.

They offered her a staff position and she moved to New York City in a leap of faith—she'd never even visited New York. She worked on the new Emerging Markets team, which looked for ways to offer recent graduates, some who already had taken professional positions, the option of taking on a Teach For America position. Sarah worked with large companies such as Amazon to create deferment options; a graduate would be able to work as a teacher for two years and maintain professional job offers.

"I think TFA provides a unique opportunity to do something that is so important, something that allows you to follow your heart and do something you're passionate about. It's a prestigious organization and people are starting to recognize it," Sarah said.

Working as a TFA staff member, Sarah heard Wendy Kopp speak several times. While she was originally drawn to the idea of service, her understanding of Kopp's passion to close the achievement gap came partially through Sarah's own experiences.

"It was heartbreaking to see the differences in the educations of private school students versus immigrant kids," Sarah said. "When you see kids that have so much spunk and intelligence and heart and you know the only reason they'll end up making minimum wage is because they don't get the same opportunities" as children whose parents are more wealthy, it's unjust, she said. "The expectations of them are at least five times less than the students at private schools. Kids the same age would get coloring books and single-digit math compared with those who were doing multiplication and double-digit division."

"The only difference is money; it's difficult to see that contrast" and not want to do something about it, she said.

That conflict is why Sarah joined TFA, and ultimately was the reason she left.

"I am particularly interested in the political side of things, and how do we change this? How do we change the fact that these schools are serving students that are so segregated?" she asked.

Sarah now is attending Harvard Law School, with a particular interest in immigration and education law. After she completes her degree, she'd like to work in Washington, D.C.

"I think we absolutely have to be making this change from all sorts of angles," she said. "For me, the more that I recognized that, the more I was excited to take a step where I could relate to people in different fields. I felt law school would push my thinking and force me to get out of the education reform community and push it to the next level." ▲



CELEBRATING
GLOBAL OUTREACH:
THE 2011
POSEY
LEADERSHIP
AWARD

Austin College has announced Zainab Salbi, founder and CEO of Women for Women International—a grassroots humanitarian and development organization helping women survivors of wars rebuild their lives—as the recipient of its 2011 Posey Leadership Award. The award will be presented at 7:30 p.m. February 17, 2011, at the Austin College GO! Forum in the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre of the AT&T Performing Arts Center in Dallas in conjunction with an address by Salbi about her work. Tickets are \$35 to \$125 and are available by calling 214.880.0202 or may be purchased at <http://tickets.attpac.org>. Proceeds from the event will support scholarships for Austin College students studying abroad. Salbi will speak on campus to students and faculty earlier that day. ∞ Since Salbi founded the organization in 1993, Women for Women International has served more than 271,000 women worldwide, providing women survivors of war and other conflicts with the tools and resources to move from crisis and poverty to stability and self-sufficiency.

C H A N G I N G T H E W O R L D

President **Marjorie Hass** recently spoke by phone with Zainab Salbi about her work. Excerpts of that conversation are presented below.

ZS: It's a great honor to be selected for this award. I'm deeply honored and deeply touched by your generosity and your acknowledgement.

MH: I just this morning signed up to be a Women for Women sponsor, so I'm very excited about that and will want to talk about that first-hand when you are with us. As you think about your visit to campus, what message would you like to bring to students as you speak to them?

ZS: What I really focus on is how to live one truth and speak one truth, *be* one truth. It's particularly relevant not to put our dreams to the side until we retire but actually to live every day and be in a good place with our life and our dreams and our hopes. The rest—all the material needs and wants—will come with that.

That's much easier said and much prettier to hear than actually to live, but every single minute is worth it. That sometimes means jumping off the cliff without knowing where we will land. It comes with a sacrifice, and it comes with long-term vision opposed to short-term vision. It comes with humility and admitting "I really don't know it all," and admitting that actually is the framework.

MH: That message is going to resonate beautifully with our students. It's so much a part of the kind of ethos of Austin College, and we look for students who are ready to hear that kind of message and want to live in that way. Austin College is a much more internationally focused and outward-focused community than many U.S. colleges. Our students have one of the highest rates of international study; they are very mission-centered and mission-focused; they want to be world-changers; they are very much interested in how to connect education and the privilege of having a liberal arts education with making the world a better place. I think they're going to be very excited to hear your story.

Part of what we are recognizing as we honor you is that you had a passion to make the world better, so you looked and saw a problem that wasn't being addressed. How do people know what is the thing to do? Is it better to get involved in an organization that already exists? How do young college graduates channel that passion?

ZS: That's a good question. I by no means think that everyone should go and start an organization. I think it's almost destructive to do that. If the goal is to live my passion, sometimes the answer is through existing organizations. It is walking the route of exploration, basically.

Did I wake up one day and say "this is my passion"? No, but something triggered it. I get worked up when I see injustice, particularly against women. But someone may have the exact same feeling, the same inspiration or excitement, about writing or working with art or a musical piece. For me, I was learning about the Holocaust for the first time in my life and it just so happened that at that same time, *Newsweek* and *Time* included very similar images of the concentration camps and rape camps in Bosnia. I realized I had to do something about the injustice and began a journey of calling women's groups, wanting to volunteer, wanting to sponsor someone, until I discovered there was a vacuum and the kinds of services I was looking for weren't being offered.

Particularly with social justice workers, there is this thought that oh, "you are a hero," and "I am not a hero, because I don't do that work." I completely reject that. We all are trying to fulfill our potential. If my potential was to be an artist, I would have pursued it. We all complement the larger world and make it more beautiful than it is.

MH: Yes, I love the phrase, "The place where you belong is where your passion and the world's hunger meet." It has to be where your passion is, otherwise it's a place for someone but not for you. Tell me why you were particularly moved by the

O N E W O M A N A T A T I M E



plight of women. What happens when you affect a woman's life that might be different than if you intervene in other areas?

ZS: I honestly think that women are disproportionately impacted by every single crisis in the world. If you talk about poverty, then two-thirds of the most impoverished people are women. If you talk about food production, then 70-80 percent of the world's women produce 60 percent of the food, but only get 2 percent of the income and land. In order to make the world a better place, in order to make sustainable peace, we've got to help women in a major, major way. The people who are not burning and raping and killing, and the only people who are really building and keeping life going—whether sending that child to school despite the conflict or keeping the food on the table every day—are women.

But this is not only about women. This is about all of us, and if we don't awaken to that, we all are losing. It's the most efficient investment and most holistic investment because not only do women spend 90 percent of whatever they earn on their families and children, we are learning that more and more, the first investment they make is in their husband. You want to help men? Help women. If you want to help children, help women. If you want to generate future leadership—a healed leadership—help women. Whatever you do, the solution always goes to the simplest, clearest one, and yet we're not seeing it. It's women.

MH: What do you see happen when a woman from a stable western nation becomes a Women for Women sponsor and begins to interact with women, meeting each other across religious, historical, and cultural differences?

ZS: I honestly believe we all are struggling with the same things. The women in wars and conflict and poverty go through the extremity of the experience. But the core of women's marginalization is in every country. For me it is not about helping 'her;' it is about helping "us," and "us" is all. In this country, many of us happen to have access to resources. And with that blessing comes the responsibility to share.

MH: You've talked about where you find the beauty and the inspiration—what are the difficult parts? Do you ever have days or experiences in the field or in your office where you think "I just can't face this any more"?

ZS: Can I tell you a secret? It's never in other countries. It's frustrating that we aren't enjoying the privileges we have in this country. Why don't we enjoy our lives more; why do we live in such intensity? When we have everything we need, why are we

making ourselves so miserable? That is what is most frustrating to me, to be honest.

The most painful part in the field is exemplified by a woman I encountered in a camp in Kosovo—a young woman, a new mother whose husband had just been killed—who looked to me and said, “I am too helpless to be helped. Go help someone else.” For me it is most painful when one woman gives up. It’s not heartbreaking in a paralyzing way; it’s hearing this and saying, “I will stay here until you realize you are not helpless.” To lose hope in humanity and to not recognize the beauty of humanity are almost two sides of the same coin.

MH: It’s very inspiring to hear you speak. You have been so generous with your time talking with me today. We’re going to have such a wonderful time hosting you on campus. There is great excitement on campus, and this event is going to be tremendously significant.

The 2011 Posey Leadership Award event will be held at The Wyly Theatre in the Arts District of downtown Dallas. The Wyly (pictured on the left in photo), a 575-seat, multi-configuration theatre, offers a unique venue described by the *Dallas Morning News* as representing “a seriousness and boldness of design too rare in Dallas” that, as part of the AT&T Performing Arts Center, brings “international attention to Dallas.” 📍



U N F A T H O M E D



Unfathom band members include Austin College 2009 graduates Brandon McInnis, at center, and Lisa Chou, to his right.

A D V E N T U R E

Q: What do classical opera, Japanese pop, and alternative rock have in common? **A:** **Brandon McInnis '09**

In five years' time, singer Brandon McInnis has remade his music three times, most recently landing in the Deep Ellum music scene in downtown Dallas, Texas.

Brandon got his start in an eighth grade musical production of *Into The Woods*. He soon joined choir and made first chair for baritones in the Texas All-State Choir. He spent a summer in Michigan at the Interlochen Center for the Arts, where he studied classical opera, performing as Figaro in Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*, and as Martin in Aaron Copeland's *The Tender Land*.

Brandon returned to Texas to attend Austin College. He intended to study medicine, but his planned minor in Japanese studies quickly became his major.

Though he sang in the Austin College A Cappella Choir, Brandon's experiences during a study abroad term and Posey Leadership Institute connections caused his interest in music to blossom.

"During my semester in Japan, I was songwriting and my host mom challenged me to write something in Japanese," Brandon said. He liked the challenge, and then **Pete DeLisle**, director of the Posey Leadership Institute, stepped in, helping him make contacts in the music industry in Tokyo, Japan, who expressed interest in his music.

Those experiences lit a fire within Brandon, who formed a band when he returned home, including keyboardist **Lisa Chou '09**. The band produced a Japanese pop album—with Brandon singing in Japanese—and soon heard from a producer in Osaka, Japan.

His band, Buranden, went on a whirlwind tour of Japan, jumping into a culture and a language they knew only tentatively. "You can't be afraid," Brandon said. "When you're in another culture, you're afraid you're going to make a mistake and sound stupid. But you're going to make those mistakes, so just do it."

The Buranden musicians met many Japanese music promoters while on tour, but ultimately were told that Japanese audiences might not be ready to accept a Texas-born pop star.

"It was pretty amazing," Lisa said. "We learned a lot, like different musical concepts. Their venues are super tiny and it's a lot of fun, because you're elbow-to-elbow, so you catch the energy of the band. The crowds—they're tapping their feet or nodding their heads—and that's when they're really enjoying the music."

The band returned home to Dallas and the musicians set about reinventing themselves. They added a bassist, switched drummers, and christened themselves Unfathom, an alternative rock band—and Brandon returned to singing in English.

And then, out of nowhere, they got a big break: Dallas alternative radio station 102.1 FM KDGE held an online contest to fill one of the local band spots in its annual music fest. The band that received the most votes would be the opening act for Edgefest 20, held May 1, 2010.

Unfathom won, and played its first live gig for the huge Edgefest crowd at Pizza Hut Park in Frisco. "Thirty seconds before we were supposed to go on, we noticed the keyboard wasn't getting electricity and we were scrambling," Brandon said. "I was crazy nervous and I almost passed out afterwards. But we did it and people loved it."

The band released its first album, a five-track EP titled *Can't See* at the concert. The featured track, "Stand Down," was the tune that helped Unfathom win the contest. Since then, Unfathom has performed at several venues in Deep Ellum. The members look to continue playing, and dream of performing at Austin's South by Southwest music festival.

"Going from pure classical opera to pop music to rock is an adventure, but the big theme of my life is adventure," Brandon said. "My life is really random ... it's fun that way!" ▲

Writing Her Own Stories

A fruit-flavored ice pop and a red scarf can tell you a lot about community, culture, and childhood, if you ask Carmen Tafolla '72.

In fact, she wrote the book on it. Several books, actually. Carmen wrote "What Can You Do With a Rebozo?" and a follow-up, "What Can You Do With a Paleta?," which won the 2010 Library of Congress Americas Award and the Tomas Rivera Children's Book Award.



Carmen has been writing since 1990, working on everything from college textbooks to brightly colored children's stories. "I started writing for children in the 1970s, but at that time there was very little interest on the part of publishers in releasing children's books," she said. "My first children's book publication was in 2008—and after that, things happened very quickly."

She is the author of more than 15 books, seven screenplays, and many articles and essays. She also gives lectures and performs in a one-woman show that draws on characters from her stories.

"*What Can You Do With a Rebozo?*" was the first in Carmen's intended "What Can You Do ..." series. In it, a child learns that a simple, long Mexican scarf has many uses. "It's a reflection of the philosophy of transformative education. The best curriculum and the best education come from inside the human being," Carmen explained. "This is the very earliest reflection of that, where children can take something as simple as a shawl and make it into a cape, or a blindfold to hit the piñata; they can turn themselves into a pirate; they can make their own Halloween costumes."

The next book, "*What Can You Do With a Paleta?*," explores the benefits of an icy treat on a hot day. "It is a tribute to all those neighborhoods, environments where parents care about what their children are exposed to in the world. They care about feeding the children the richest of food experiences, of family experiences, of neighborhood parenting, kind of the global village that responds to the child in a child-appropriate way. The children gain the confidence to speak to adults and learn from adults in a positive way," Carmen said. "It was a tribute to my own barrio."

Carmen grew up in a barrio of San Antonio, Texas. Her experiences there fuel her interest in bilingual children's books. "For me, it's very exciting, because I didn't see myself reflected in books as a child. I loved books, but I never saw anything reflected in books from my culture. I think I was in college before I saw anything that reflected the Latina in the U.S. experience," she said.

Part of her upbringing included learning, as her father would tell her, "*solo lo barato se compra con dinero*"—"only cheap things can be bought with money." The lesson that the most valuable things are not those that can be purchased—friendship, imagination, family, community, love—is one that Carmen shares in her stories.

"Both these books seek to empower children and let them know that their greatest resources are inside their minds," she said. "It's a tribute to what any community can do for their children regardless of economic challenges."

"*What Can You Do With a Paleta?*" won the 2010 Rivera Children's Book Award, which Carmen shares with illustrator Magaly Morales. The Rivera award "is designed to encourage authors, illustrators and publishers to produce books that authentically reflect the lives of Mexican American children and young adults in the United States," according to its website.

Carmen has won the award two years in a row. In 2009, her book *The Holy Tortilla and a Pot of Beans*, a collection of stories about growing up in the bilingual and bicultural world of the Texas-Mexican border, won the Rivera award for older children and young adults.

"When I received the award in 2009 for *Pot of Beans*, it was a great, great honor that I felt was very significant. And then to get it again in 2010 in the children's division made me feel that this book had reached its actualization," she said. "In children's literature, the fewer words it has, the more polished each word has to be. So writing for children really requires being willing to write many, many drafts to make that story do the most it can do with the fewest pages and the fewest words."

Carmen also won the Library of Congress Americas Award, which recognizes outstanding works that "authentically and engagingly portray Latin America, the Caribbean, or Latinos in the United States."

"Latino culture—and even within that, Mexican-American culture—has not had the coverage that it deserves given the percentage of the population," Carmen said. Of the 3,000 new children's books released last year, only 66 covered Hispanic topics, she explained.

But children in particular need to see themselves accepted in literature, she said. "Books can open a window to the world and allow us to see other cultures and experiences and expand our horizons. But in order for reading to be deeply rooted in a children's world, they need to see their own world in books so they say 'that's me, that's my neighborhood,'" Carmen said. "That mirror allows us to become passionate about books and to realize that books are not just from a fantasy world, but are related to our world."



TOP HONORS

Carmen Tafolla was the 2010 alumna inductee to the Iota of Texas Phi Beta Kappa chapter at Austin College. Phi Beta Kappa allows chapters to induct alumni who have graduated at least 10 years ago. Carmen performed part of her one-woman show as the speaker for the event.

"I was delighted to receive the kind of teacher education that Austin College provided—challenging ideas and pushing the envelope and education. I'm very grateful to the Austin College Financial Aid Department for making innovation and ideas available to a kid from the west side barrios of San Antonio."

She also has served as a member of the board for the Austin College Center for Southwestern and Mexican Studies. "Austin College always has been noted for staying contemporary, for staying with the real world and not being isolated in an ivory tower. I think the center and its programs allow Austin College students to learn about a huge part of our Texas history, our culture, and our Texas future. It's an inextricable part of the Texas experience and now the United States experience. If students plan to live on this half of the planet, contact with Latino cultural values is a crucial part of understanding what goes on in our contemporary world." 🌶️

\$1 MILLION -



AND COUNTING

It's not often that an incoming student runs a major philanthropic enterprise in his spare time—raising more than \$1 million for children's medical care before entering college. However, it is not surprising that such a freshman would choose to attend Austin College, where giving time and money to help those in need is as much a part of the culture as textbooks and lectures. Freshman Ben Sater entered the world of major fundraising when he was 10 years old.

Ben had just had surgery, again, for trigger finger, a condition in which the fingers can become caught in a bent position, often painfully popping. Without treatment, the fingers can be permanently stuck, unable to unbend.

He had his first surgeries for trigger finger as a 3-year-old, to release the tendons in his left thumb and right pinkie finger. Seven years later, he returned to Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Dallas, Texas, for surgery on three fingers on his left hand.

Afterward, Ben noticed something strange: His mother didn't stop to pay on the way out.

"Mom," he asked, "why aren't you paying? You have to pay them!" No, she didn't, she explained. Scottish Rite accepts no payment from its patients; care is funded entirely through donations.

That revelation sparked an idea in Ben; he wanted to give back to the hospital, so it could help more children. Ideas were kicked around at the dinner table, and the family came up with a plan: a kids' golf tournament with a \$100 donation to play.

Ben had been playing golf since he was three when his dad gave him a set of plastic clubs, and frequently played in youth tournaments, so it seemed a logical step. The family presented the idea to the president of the hospital with a goal of raising \$10,000. "J.C. Montgomery, the president of Scottish Rite, loved the idea—but he said to try just to break even, that it's hard to raise money with these kinds of things," Ben recalled.

That first year, the KidSwing golf tournament in Dallas had 78 participants and raised \$20,000. "It was amazing," Ben said.

The Sater family continued the KidSwing tournament, a nine-hole team scramble for kids ages 7 to 18. The popularity of the tournament grew by word of mouth, so much that a second event had to be added in McKinney, Texas, in 2008.

After easily raising \$10,000, Ben set himself a new, grand goal: He'd like to raise a million dollars for the hospital by the time he entered college.

In summer, 2010, 470 participants entered KidSwing, bringing the events total earnings to \$1,018,842.42, which caught the national media's attention. He was interviewed by The Associated Press—the syndicated article ran in thousands of print and online media outlets nationwide—and on Good Morning Texas, CNN, and the Today Show. "I searched my name in Google one day, and it's just pages and pages," he said.

Ben decided to attend Austin College because a liberal arts education appealed to him, after he heard about the College from sophomore **Natalie Nelms**. "I wasn't sure what I wanted to do for college," Ben said. "I thought about big schools and going far from home. I was visiting big schools and thought, 'wow, this is really big,' and visiting schools in California and thinking 'this is really far from home,'" he said. "And then I visited Austin College and it felt like home here. They wanted me to come here, unlike the others, where I was pursuing them to be able to attend."

He plans to study psychology and business, and is thinking about graduate school. He'll continue his involvement in KidSwing—he moved up from the kid committee to the executive committee this year—and would like Austin College to get involved in the fundraiser as well.

Ben appreciates the many service projects already available at the College, and plans to get involved. "It's been hitting me a lot more that one idea could have gone both ways. I could have had my parents write a check for \$100—or you put a little more thought into it and you get a million dollars that the hospital wouldn't have had, that the kids wouldn't have had. If you have the idea, you have to put it to work," he said. ▲



WORLD VIEWS

Cityscape/Urban

- 1 Winner: "Just Another Day in the Plaza" – Kaitlin Elledge '11 (Spring 2010) Seville, Spain
- 2 Runner Up: "Paris Underground" – Sahar Mehdi '11 (Fall 2009) Paris, France

Cross-Cultural Interaction

- 3 Winner: "Weathering the Leather Plant" – Sahar Mehdi '11 (Fall 2009) Fez, Morocco
- 4 Runner Up: "Accordion Player" – Kinsey Wuensche '12 (Fall 2010) Rome, Italy

Environmental/Landscape

- 5 Winner: "Longterm Immersion" – Cassandra Enslinger '12 (Fall 2010) Port of Chania, Crete
- 6 Runner Up: "Ashes of Pompeii" – Carlee Young '11 (Fall 2009) Pompeii, Italy



5



6

Six students showcased their study abroad experiences as winners and runners-up in this year's Global Outreach photo contest. In all, 42 students submitted photos in one of three categories: cross-cultural interaction, environmental/landscape, or cityscape.

"We love this opportunity to feature students' artistic and photographic talents as they interact with other cultures and environments," said study abroad advisor **Ashlee Flinn**.

Winners received a \$50 prize, and runners up received a \$25 prize, and their photos were displayed in the Wright Campus Center.

See all the entries and learn more about the winners at www.flickr.com/groups/cgfall2010photocontest.



4



3



2

H O M E C O M





Homecoming 2010 offered the traditional activities such as the 'Roo Run, the golf cart parade, reunion gatherings, and numerous other opportunities to visit with fellow alumni, faculty, and staff. In addition, President Marjorie Hass presented the annual State of the College address, and, later, along with her husband, Larry, welcomed President's Council donors to a reception at their home. New to the schedule was a reception and LGBT gathering hosted by the P.R.I.D.E. student group and open to all alumni and friends. Zack Bengston and Adani Sanchez, both '12, were elected Homecoming king and queen. Though it was the 10th anniversary of the opening of Jerry Apple Stadium, celebration was shortened by torrential rain at game time, and lightning eventually led to suspended play. When the game resumed on the following morning, the 'Roo pulled out a dramatic 17-16 win over Rhodes.



S H A R E D V I S I O



During 2010, Austin College President Marjorie Hass sat down for a conversation about the role of alumni with Jenny King '92, new Alumni Board president. Austin College alumni are represented by the Alumni Board, but may not know the goals of the board. Many alumni have met Dr. Hass; others have yet to hear her vision for Austin College. For all those enquiring minds, we share a glimpse into the women's conversation, particularly as it relates to alumni involvement at the College.

MH: Jenny, I know that alumni hope to learn more about you as the new Alumni Board president since you represent alumni in a variety of ways. What made you stay connected to Austin College after you graduated?

JK: Austin College is an important part of who I am. I certainly received an excellent undergraduate education and grounding in life through my attendance at Austin College. The experience also provided me with lasting friendships and, most importantly, my husband **Chris Thompson '92**. Austin College also provided my two sisters and my sister-in-law with an excellent education and lifetime friends, as well as a strong sense of self. As far as my involvement, I was involved in alumni affairs through my sorority, Kappa Gamma Chi, before I graduated. I've always enjoyed attending GOLD events and other alumni events. Through the relationships developed attending these events as well as my experiences as an alumna of the Austin College A Cappella Choir and leader in the Kappa Gamma Chi Alumnae Network, I've had the privilege of service on the Alumni Board on two different occasions. Of all of my experiences with Austin College, the Kappas have impacted my involvement the most post-graduation. The Kappa Alumnae Network has provided me with a great sense of involvement and accomplishment as well as a whole new set of Kappa sisters and friends beyond my own four years here. The experience also provides me with a current connection to how students today at Austin College are learning and impacting our global community. Overall, Austin College continues to be one of my favorite topics. As my family, friends, and coworkers know, don't get me started talking about Austin College!

N , P A R T T W O

MH: That's terrific! We like that kind of involvement! Do you see a wide representation of alumni on the Alumni Board? Do we have folks from different graduate generations?

JK: We do and one of the things we continue to strive for is a membership with diversity in age and backgrounds. We know that a board balanced with a diversity of opinions and perspectives will provide dynamic leadership on behalf of our alumni. Each year, we seek out nominations for new board members that bring together people from different Austin College eras as well as those involved in different initiatives on campus, alumni who have been involved with the College since graduation, and alumni who are looking for opportunities to get reconnected. We always are looking for people interested in being involved because interest and passion really are what make a good volunteer.

MH: For graduates who perhaps have had other things going on in their lives and haven't been able to stay in touch but now are looking to become re-engaged, what would you recommend as the best way to do that?

JK: I would recommend applying for the board if they want regular involvement and to help move things forward. If they don't have time to commit to board-level service, we are very interested in alumni helping with the student recruitment in cities large and small across the country. We're interested in seeing alumni attend college events, like the Posey Leadership Award lectures, the Kenneth Street Law Symposium, or other long-standing programs, including Homecoming. While we strive to schedule events in cities in which we haven't hosted an Austin College event in a few years—and I hope alumni will attend these events—I'd particularly like to invite our alumni **back to campus**. It is beautiful! It doesn't have that crazy factory smell anymore (for those of us from a certain era, you know what I mean!). In fact, if you haven't been back to campus in a few years, you may not even recognize it. We completely re-landscaped the grounds; we have a new campus center; the campus is growing substantially—we have new buildings and a new football stadium; we also have a real college green; and there is a beautiful college entrance, where Luckett once stood, to welcome guests.

MH: Our alumni definitely need to come back home! They would enjoy getting back on campus and staying aware of what is happening in our programs and curriculum. It's very easy to take Austin College for granted and to assume that it will always be there, that it will always be as strong and vital as it is at this moment or as it was when someone was at school here. That vitality depends on the ongoing support and care that we receive from our alumni, and that support comes in a variety of fashions. When I am out on the road, I always like to emphasize that referring prospective students to us is very important. Bragging about us, letting folks know about what makes Austin College special is very important.

JK: One of my favorite things is to tell others about Austin College. Bragging can be a good thing! As we've discussed, involvement is key to our collective success and the Alumni Board is seeking to engage more of our alumni in activities and volunteer opportunities on behalf of the College. I look forward to helping bring more alumni into the fold. Related to this mission is increasing the financial support of Austin College by our alumni. I don't think people realize that giving just \$50, \$100, or whatever your means may allow, really makes a difference for Austin College. I would be remiss if I didn't mention that Austin College makes it easy to give. You can donate online, you can designate your gift toward a particular program or initiative, and you can even pledge a significant amount and pay that out over time. That's what Chris and I are doing.

MH: Alumni giving to the College on a yearly basis according to their means is absolutely essential. When I am speaking with foundations or donors who are able to make significant, institution-changing contributions to the College, one of the first things they ask me is the percentage of our alumni participation. For them that is an extremely relevant figure. It's very difficult for us to engage folks outside "the family" in the mission and future of Austin College unless we can show them that we ourselves are engaged. Currently fewer than 30 percent of Austin College alumni make an annual gift. And those gifts, even in what may seem like small amounts when looking at our needs, really do make a difference. I absolutely encourage everyone who cares about the future of the College to be on our list of donors and to make a gift. No gift is too small and no gift is too large. We need both small and large gifts because we do have ambitious goals.

JK: I second and third that! One of the primary goals of our Alumni Board is to expand connections with our alumni, not only to get them back on campus or invite them to visit you when you are in their city, or to connect with us via technology, but also to remember the College when they are writing checks or thinking about their giving to organizations. Austin College needs their support, and we hope as an Alumni Board to raise that percentage of involvement significantly as we look toward a new era for Austin College.

MH: Jenny, thanks so much for sitting down with me to have this conversation. It is a joy to see that my work and that of the Alumni Board are so clearly moving in the same direction to help connect Austin College to its history and its future.

JK: I'm honored to be part of the Alumni Board and I look forward to acting on behalf of the alumni of Austin College.

Make a gift today at www.austincollege.edu/support

Become involved - Write alumni@austincollege.edu

61

Robert G. Landolt, professor of chemistry at Texas Wesleyan University since 1981, was awarded the status of professor emeritus in the Department of Chemistry and the graduate program of nurse anesthesia. He retired from teaching at the end of the spring 2010 semester after 41 years in education, during which he received numerous grants for research. He published more than 25 scholarly works—many that he co-authored with the more than 60 undergraduate research students he mentored during his career.

64

Don Read, the senior partner of one of the largest groups of colon and rectal surgeons in the nation, was recently awarded the Max Cole Leadership Award by the Dallas County Medical Society. This award is given for leadership in the medical community and community service and is the highest award given by the DCMS to physicians. After surviving West Nile Virus in 2005, Dr. Read started one of the few West Nile Virus Support Groups in the country, in Dallas, Texas. In addition to his active practice, he is secretary of the board of trustees of the Texas Medical Association.

65

(16) Kathryn Proctor Duax was elected and installed as president-elect of the National Association of Teachers of Singing at the national conference in Salt Lake City, Utah. NATS is the largest association of voice professionals in the world. Duax is professor emerita of music at the University of Wisconsin and has been a voice teacher for nearly 40 years.

69

James Noble Johnson, attorney with Johnson, Rial & Parker, P.C., in Austin, Texas, received the 2010 "Distinguished Real Estate Attorney Lifetime Achievement Award" from the Real Estate, Probate, and Trust Law Section of the State Bar of Texas.

72

(4) Bruce Goldston, Robert Elder, Richard Jesse, and Hondo Shapley gathered in San Antonio, Texas, in August. The friends celebrated the 20th anniversary of the kidney transplant received by Bruce's son, Adam.

75

(12) Pots by artist **Susie Fowler** were featured at the Lady Bird Wildflower Center show, June 5–August 22, in Austin, Texas.

■ **(11) Laura Latham Ingram** has accepted the position of director of web marketing and communication at the Community College of Denver. She previously spent 10 years working for Sun Microsystems, first as web marketing operations manager, and later as senior channel communications manager/acting director. Laura is the daughter of the late Dr. **Helen Latham**, Austin College head reference librarian from 1969-1989.

Numbers in color within entries correspond to photos on page 42 & 43.

76

David Wesley Perkins and **Christopher Hall '77** have started a group for Austin College LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) alumni and supporters. The group is searchable on Facebook under "Austin College LGBT Alumni."

77

(6) Julie Candler Hayes, chair of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures of the University of Amherst in Massachusetts, was named interim dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts in September. She follows Joel W. Martin, who assumed the new post of vice provost and dean of the faculty.

79

(14) Berry D. Spears has been named leader of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency practice at Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. in Houston, Texas. Previously with the Austin, Texas, office, he is a prominent bankruptcy partner with extensive nationwide restructuring experience in the financial, manufacturing, telecommunications, real estate, retail and oil and gas industries. Also active in community organizations, Berry has served on the advisory board of The Helping Hand Home for Children in Austin, and as a board member for Capital Area United Way.

80

Danny J. Anderson, an award-winning professor and scholar in Latin American culture literature, was promoted to dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Kansas, effective July 1. Previously vice provost for academic affairs, Danny served as interim provost and executive vice chancellor before taking the deanship. A specialist in Latin American literary and cultural studies, he has received numerous awards for teaching and scholarship.

81

Mark Stephenson received the Bishop Gerald Kennedy Award as Honored Lay Man of the California-Pacific Annual Conference in May in recognition of distinguished service to The United Methodist Church. He is a long-time member at Hollywood United Methodist Church, has exemplified strong leadership skills within the congregation as well as in outreach programs beyond the local church, and is the chair of the Los Angeles District Board of Congregational Development.

82

(1) Michael John McCully, associate professor of economics at High Point University in High Point, North Carolina, was awarded the Meredith Clark Slane Distinguished Teaching-Service Award at the graduation ceremony in May.

86

Clifton Caskey earned a Ph.D. in European history from the University of Houston in December 2009. His dissertation examined the use of concentration camp prisoners by the Nazis as a source of labor for the *Luftwaffe* during WWII.

88

Dixie Decker Saldivar is the owner of Home Organization by Dixie. Operating since 2008, her business assists clients with the de-clutter and organization of their homes. ■ **Mike Ragain** of Lubbock, Texas, has been appointed to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council of the State of Texas by Governor Rick Perry. Mike will serve as the chair for the council. He is a physician at Texas Tech University Health Science Center, where he is a professor and chair of the School of Medicine Family and Community Medicine Department.

89

(8) **Janna Casstevens** and retired U.S. Army Sergeant Major Frank Zepp were married July 31 in Salado, Texas. Janna was given away by her daughters, Lisa and Katie Lewis. Janna is a television producer and newspaper columnist for the U.S. Army III Corps and Fort Hood Public Affairs Office in Fort Hood, Texas. Frank is a family employment counselor with the Texas Veterans Commission in Copperas Cove, Texas. The family lives in Killeen, Texas.

91

Todd Treible was honored with FedEx's Five Star Award for superior performance and contributions to the company. Todd and his daughter, Chloe, 8, have lived in the Memphis, Tennessee, area for the past four years.

92

Stacy A. Jacob was one of 10 professors to receive the 2009-2010 Professing Excellence Award at Texas Tech University. The award is given by the Office of University Student Housing to outstanding

faculty who go above and beyond to impact their students' learning and academic success. Students living in the residence halls nominate faculty for the award. Stacy is an assistant professor in the Higher Education Program at Texas Tech.

94

(18) **Beth Mazer** and her colleague Amy Huggins opened PineyWoods Pediatrics, P.A., in Nacogdoches, Texas, in August. Beth earned her medical degree at University of Texas Health Science Center and completed residencies in pediatrics at Baystate Medical Center in Massachusetts and at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Amarillo, Texas.

95

Noelle Castin accepted the call as director of Christian Education at Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church in Bethesda, Maryland. She is in charge of all events and programming for children and youth of the church.

96

Cullen Chandler, assistant professor of history at Lycoming College in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, won the Junior Faculty Teaching Award. An article he co-authored, "Sleeping with the Enemy: Wikipedia in the College Classroom," was published by *The History Teacher*, the journal of the Society for History Education. In emulation of a treasured Austin College experience, Cullen co-led a college travel course entitled "Medieval Germany" for the May Term. He recently visited the Austin College campus with his wife, **Amy Aubrey Chandler** '96, and daughter Cate, 7, during their summer vacation.

Charla Glass Aldous '82 was highlighted in *D Magazine's* first listing of the "Best Women Lawyers in Dallas." With 25 years of experience in more than 100 courtroom trials, she represents plaintiffs in a variety of serious personal injury matters through Aldous Law Firm. She has earned numerous Dallas, state, and national accolades for her courtroom success, including recognition on several "top lawyer" lists, including "Ten Winning Lawyers in America, released by *The National Law Journal*.



In the Spotlight

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Go to www.austincollege.edu/homecoming for the latest information.

98

(7) **Bethany Wofford** and **Chris Price** were married August 7 at the Woodlawn Park Amphitheater in Portland, Oregon. **Cari Trevino '99**, Chris and Bethany's high school classmate, officiated. Guests included **Shelly Ley '98**, **Laura Mack '98**, **Kathleen Matkin Eskola '98**, **Sarah Johnsen '98**, **Heather Kidd '97**, **Anna Riccobene '99**, **Courtney Mudge '99**, **Rebecca Wisner Ray '00** and her son Beckett, **Adrienne Kearney '95**, and **Fred Morgan '67**.

99

Austin Amos was selected as a Rising Star of 2009 for the Mid-South region (Arkansas, Mississippi, and Tennessee) in the *Super Lawyers* annual publication. Last fall, Austin, his wife, Lindsey, and their daughter, Claire, 1, relocated to Plano, Texas, where he is a solo practitioner, focusing in real estate and business law. ■ **Sarah Spangler Gutierrez** completed her Master of Science in Information Studies degree from the University of Texas at Austin. She is a policy service consultant for the Texas Association of School Boards, serving assigned school districts throughout the state. She and her husband, Jerry, live in Round Rock, Texas, where he is a systems administrator for the Round Rock Independent School District. ■ **Paul F. Tu**, an attorney with Arrington, Tu & Burnett in Houston, Texas, was elected to membership in the Fellows of the Texas Bar Foundation. Fellows of the foundation are selected for outstanding professional achievements and commitment to the improvement of the justice system throughout Texas.

00

Molly Balthrop McGarey, a fourth grade teacher at the Fine Arts Academy in White Settlement ISD, was voted Teacher of the Year for her school, and then for the district for the 2008-2009 year.

01

Yamileth Cazorla-Lancaster completed a pediatrics residency at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and is working as a pediatrician at Yakima Pediatric Associates in Yakima, Washington. Her husband, **Brad Lancaster '01**, completed his internal medicine residency at the University of Cincinnati and is now working as an internal medicine hospitalist at Yakima Memorial Hospital. Their son, Kian, is 5. ■ **Tara Larson** and Justin Brown were married July 4. The wedding party included **Richard '02** and **Amanda Dolin Hipo** and **Amanda Opihare '99**, **Elizabeth Wiley Jimenez '03**, and **Kirk Justus '86** were among the guests. The couple lives in Arlington, Texas. Tara earned her doctorate in economics at the University of Texas at

Dallas in August and is on the faculty at the University of Texas at Arlington. ■ (9) **Meg Marcotte** and Ross Wagman were married at Northridge Presbyterian Church in Dallas, Texas, in January. **Micah Branaman** was the maid of honor. The couple lives in Manchester, England, where Ross owns a business.

02

Mehvish Shah earned a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in May.

03

(10) **Elizabeth Anne Goza** and **Moises "Moe" Ramos II** were married June 26 in Wynne Chapel, with **John Williams '84** officiating. Elizabeth was escorted down the aisle by her father, **Tom Goza '61**. The wedding party included matron of honor **Mariah Davenport Williams** and maid of honor **Cassie Lovell**. Other alumni guests included **Jon Harris '03**, **Ryan Long**, and **JR Norman**. The couple lives in Garland, Texas. ■ **Beth M. Terpolilli Teegarden** graduated from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio School of Medicine with a degree in medicine and distinction in research. She is completing an internship in internal medicine with a residency in anesthesiology to follow. She and her husband live in North Carolina.

04

Olivia Carleo and **Joseph Eklund** were married April 10 in Pietrasanta, Italy. 'Roos attending were **Anita Carleo '07**, **Brad Jones '08**, **Leslie Moore Greenberg**, **Joseph Greenberg**, **Mike Eklund '02**, and **Kristen Johnson Eklund '03**. ■ **Megan Varvir-Coe** was awarded the 2010 Hewitt-Oberdoerffer Prize for Best Student Paper by the American Musicological Society-Southwest Chapter. She presented her paper, "In the Eye of the Beholder: The Liberation and Subjugation of Salome in Richard Strauss's *Dance of the Seven Veils*," at the chapter's biannual meeting in October at Texas Tech University. Megan is a doctoral candidate in musicology at the University of North Texas. ■ (13) **Andrew Gannon** and **Ashley Snyder '06** were married at Kay's Garden in McKinney, Texas, on June 13, 2009. The wedding party included **Daniel Harper '02**, **Ryan O'Connor**, **Hunter Kennedy**, **JP Goldsmith**, **David Meacham**, **Chris Dixon**, **Carrie Rios '06**, **Rachel Baumann '06**, and **Emma Wilking '08**. **Kenna Williams** and **Carrie Henry '05** attended. ■ **Amy Snyder** and Cory George were married June 12. Amy works in the Trust Department at Landmark Bank in Sherman and Cory works for the City of Sherman. They live in Denison, Texas.

05

(3) **Anna Day** and Jeff L. Stafford were married April 3 in a small ceremony at Arnaud's Restaurant in New Orleans, Louisiana.

06

Ashley Koruthu Chennankara and her husband, who were married in May 2009, now live in Temple, Texas, and work for Scott & White Hospital. ■ **Jennifer Mitchell** graduated from Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education in May with a Master of Divinity degree and a Master of Christian Education degree. She is now completing a residency at Methodist Health System Dallas.

07

Alyce Martindale has been a part of a multi-disciplinary team at Christus St. Michael Hospital that has developed and implemented the Community Health Worker Program Care Management and Health System Navigation since December 2008. The goals of this program are to proactively manage the health of the medically underserved with chronic disease and frequent utilization of acute care resources. In July, the program was recognized as one of the "Best of Best Practices" for the Christus Health System and nominated for a Touchstone Award. ■ (2) **Justin Richardson** and **Jessica Glenn** '08 were married January 9 in Grapevine, Texas. Their wedding party included **Kaley Roberts** '09, **Nathan Lockaby** '08, **Garrett Adcock** '08, **Matt Pike** '08, **Matt Aurand** '08, and **Reed Eichenberger** '10. ■ (5) **Adam Spore** and Maridyth Allen were married May 22 in Whitesboro, Texas, amidst a host of Austin College witnesses, including best man **Garrett Staples** '06, **Reid Kunde** '07, groomsmen; **Angela Spore-Allen** '01, sister of the groom; **Karen Spore**, mother of the groom and administrative assistant to the vice president for Student Affairs; vice president for Student Affairs **Tim Millerick**; **Michael Deen**, director of Student Life; **John Williams** '84; and **Steven Zaborowski** '08. Adam is youth director for First United Methodist Church in Allen and is a seminary student at Perkins School of Theology at SMU. Maridyth, a graduate of UNT, is assistant manager of Aeropostale in Denton. The couple lives in McKinney, Texas.

08

(15) **Patrick Hoffman** and **Lydia Bean** '02 were delegates at the Texas Democratic State Convention in Corpus Christi in June. Lydia is an assistant professor of sociology at Baylor University. Patrick lives in Dallas and works as a photographer.

09

(17) **Jessica Baker** and **Clint Rushing** '07 were married June 19 in Tyler, Texas. The wedding party included **Nicole Ruano** '08, **Jessica Lewis Wescott** '09, and **Jason Duplessis** '07. The couple lives in Coppell, Texas.

Numbers in color within entries correspond with photos on page 42 & 43.

MAKE A LEGACY GIFT TO AUSTIN COLLEGE TODAY



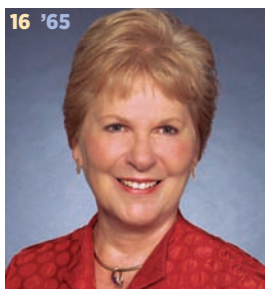
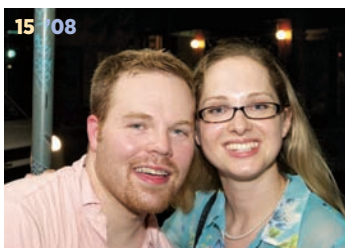
Sara Bernice and the late John D. Moseley, former first lady and president emeritus of Austin College, gave their Sherman home to Austin College several years ago in the form of a retained life estate. Their gift provided the College with a valuable asset and the Moseleys with a substantial income tax deduction. Also, because they retained a life interest, Mrs. Moseley continues to reside in the home and may do so for as long as she lives. It will become the College's property thereafter. The Moseley children, Sara Caroline, John Jr., and Rebecca, enthusiastically supported this gift to the College.

"When you put two things together you love, everybody wins," Mrs. Moseley said. "I love this house and I love the College so I am thrilled to live here and continue to be a part of College life, and happy that the College will have this lovely home when I am finished with it."

Sara Bernice Moseley,
former First Lady of Austin College
and first female elected as Moderator of the General
Assembly of the Presbyterian Church

To learn more, please visit
www.austincollege.edu/support/planned-giving or
contact Jennifer Pearson, Director of Major Gifts &
Estate Planning, at 903.813.2336 or
plannedgiving@austincollege.edu.







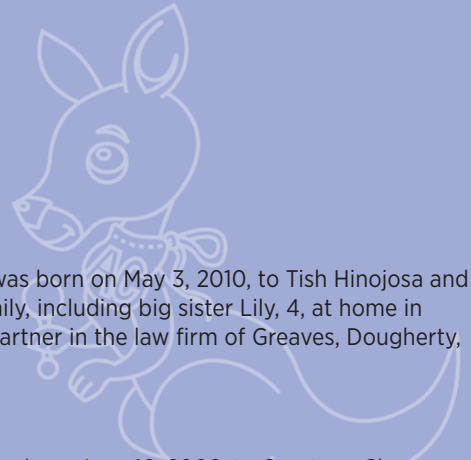
'Roos have some really good family traditions—like sending sons, cousins, nieces, brothers, granddaughters, and every other sort of family member to Austin College to continue the legacy. During fall 2010 orientation, this group of legacy students and family members gathered for a photo. Pictured, front row, left to right are Ashley Darby, Brittney Eubanks, Kristi Sizemore, Sarah Martin, Lauren Johnson, Kyle Parker; second row, Jeri Cline King '78, Gillian King, Desirae Castaneda '00, Jonathan Martin '78, Katie Johnson, Thomas Boyanton; third row, Taylor Cook, Lindsey Taylor, Sophie McDonald, Risa Rylander, Kelby Wilson, Janet Shafer Boyanton '76; and back row, Scott Howard '81, Brent Howard, Drew Stover, David Reynolds '84, Will Reynolds, and Jennifer Coppedge Reynolds '87.

Fighting 'Roos

Sixteen Austin College alumni formed a team for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's Fort Worth Walk on March 27, 2010. "The Fighting Kangaroos" raised \$9,000 for the National MS Society, more than any other team at the Fort Worth walk. The team walked in honor of Carolyn Kincaid (wife of Robert Kincaid '74, and mother of Emily Youngblood '97 and Kathryn Goldsmith '04), and for Susan Martinez Heinritz (mother of Dave Meacham '04). The team included: Becky Cunningham '97, J.P. Goldsmith '04, Kathryn Goldsmith '04, April Gorman '97, Holly Halpin '97, Mindi Hurley '97, Hunter Kennedy '04, Robert Kincaid '74, Crystal Massie '03, David Meacham '04, Marissa Montgomery '98, Katie Pickard '04, Betsy Williams '99, Dave Youngblood '96, Emily Youngblood '97, Kristin Robinson '03, and Charlie Robinson '03.



Joey's Corner



1

84

Charles Boone Hinojosa Elliott was born on May 3, 2010, to Tish Hinojosa and **Chris Elliott**. Boone joins the family, including big sister Lily, 4, at home in Austin, Texas, where Chris is a partner in the law firm of Greaves, Dougherty, Hearn & Moody.

92

A son, John Alexander "Jack" was born June 16, 2009, to Courtney Chevreux and **Javier Cardenas**. Jack joins his twin sisters Caroline and Margaux. Javier was elected president of the Hidalgo County Medical Society for 2010 through 2012. He practices obstetrics and gynecology in McAllen, Texas.



2

96

A son, Aric Tony, was born to **Shawn Welker** and **Kristine Soulé** '99 on November 12, 2010. Shawn works as a senior-level IT and network engineer for Internetwerx in Dallas. Kristine is an assistant district attorney in the Protective Order Unit of the Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney's Office.

99

Brooke Hughes was born June 4, 2010, to **Jill Young Hughes**. ■ **Garrett Whit Sides**, first-born son of Stephen and **Jean E. Jones Sides**, was born on September 28, 2009. ■ **Phoebe Rhys Siles-duToit** was born in December 2009 to Tom duToit and **Sara Skiles**. The family lives in South Bend, Indiana, where Sara is a doctoral student in sociology at the University of Notre Dame.



3



4

01

A son, Grayson Jon, was born June 22, 2010, to Courtney and **Aaron Kernek**. The family lives in Denison, Texas, where Aaron owns Tin Star Furniture.

02

A son, Noah Robert, was born on October 17, 2009, to **Matt** and **Sarah Walker Kinard**.

For more information please contact
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903.813.2043

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www.austincollege.edu/connect

Alumni and Faculty Honored at Homecoming

Distinguished Alumni Awards 2010

Honorees have distinguished themselves in their profession and in their communities, exemplifying leadership and ethical standards in their interactions. They model the accomplishment, spirit of service, and broadened perspective fostered by the Austin College educational experience. Distinguished Alumni provide inspiration to all Austin College community members, providing support of and advocacy for the College and its mission.

John Andersen '66

Andersen earned his medical degree at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. After a stint in the Air Force, serving as a pediatrician, he changed the direction of his own medical career. He began training at Southwestern Medical School and joined the faculty engaged in basic research. He next entered private practice in the Digestive Disease Center at Baylor University Medical Center. After eight years there, he returned to Southwestern Medical School as chief of the division of pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology, and nutrition.

Ty Cashion '79

Cashion is a professor of history at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. An award-winning revisionist historian and author of five books, Cashion was listed in *Texas Monthly* among "a new breed of scholars changing the way contemporary Texans look at their state." He earned a master's degree from the University of Texas at Arlington and a Ph.D. from Texas Christian University. In 2007, he was inducted into the prestigious Institute of Texas Letters and he is a member of nine learned societies.

Linda Cravens Thomas '83

Thomas has spent her career at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston in positions that have included astronaut trainer and flight controller in mission control. She has numerous awards associated with work on Hubble Space Telescope repair missions.

She also serves as president of P.E.O. Texas Chapter GI, a philanthropic education organization working to advance the education of women. She is married to **Robert Cravens '80**.

Ann Ware Farmer '70

Initially working in various forms of retail, motherhood led to work as a full-time mother and part-time volunteer for Farmer. Seven years later she moved back into employment as tour coordinator for Forth

Worth's art museums, then to Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Dallas as special projects coordinator. Ann became the community resource coordinator for Tarrant County government in 2010, which led her to Tarrant Area Food Bank, where she serves as president of the Executive Committee.

Heywood C. Clemons Volunteer Service Award

The Clemons Award is given to alumni or friends of Austin College in honor of continuing service and commitment to the College. The award is named to honor former longtime Austin College Board of Trustees Chair Heywood Clemons of Fort Worth, Texas.

Jack Pierce has been a member of the Austin College faculty for more than 40 years, teaching full-time in the biology faculty from 1967 to 1987. In 1988, he was named to the McGaw Chair of Health Sciences and took on the dual position of professor of biology and director of Health Sciences. In the Health Sciences role, he has offered assistance to many aspiring physicians and dentists as well as those seeking careers in various allied health fields. He also has worked with physicians, health care facilities, and medical schools to facilitate undergraduate internship opportunities. Recipient of Austin College's 2001 Excellence in Teaching Award, Jack received the College's distinguished Homer P. Rainey Award for outstanding service to the College in 2003.

Service to Alumni Award

The Service to Alumni Award was created by the Alumni Board in 2009 to honor a faculty or staff person who has demonstrated extraordinary commitment to the support and education of Austin College alumni around the world.

Since his graduation from Austin College, **Jay Evans '64** has been an advocate for Austin College. He spent more than 40 years as a member of the Austin College admission staff, retiring in 2008 as associate vice president for Institutional Enrollment. In addition to recruiting countless students to Austin College, he has remained a friend and mentor to many alumni. Jay has been honored as a Distinguished Alumnus of Austin College; received the Homer P. Rainey Award for outstanding service to the College; and received an honorary doctorate from the College.

Alumni: Send your nominations for 2011 Distinguished Alumni honorees to Austin College by February 28. Additional award information and a nomination form are available online: www.austincollege.edu/alumni/awards/nominations



Jay Evans, Ty Cashion, Linda Cravens Thomas, John Andersen, Ann Ware Farmer, and Jack Pierce were honored at Homecoming 2010 for career and civic accomplishments and their service to Austin College.

IN MEMORIAM

'38	Olan Moody Atherton	June 30, 2010
'41	Lucille B. Parrett	August 27, 2010
'42	Frances Smith Duncan	October 23, 2010
'42	Helen O. Leach	October 29, 2010
'44	Louis Rochester	July 21, 2010
'48	Ralph Hall	July 8, 2010
'49	Milton Kresse Jr.	June 28, 2010
'50	Cecil Bailey	October 29, 2010
'50	Delbert C. South	November 23, 2010
'50	Morris Eugene "Sonny" Spears	April 12, 2010
'50	Ethel Louise Watson	May 27, 2010
'52	Joseph R. Cooper	July 31, 2010
'53	Jane Curtis Oswalt	August 13, 2010
'53	Karl Paxton Sanders	August 21, 2010
'53	Holland Dempsey Watkins	Nov. 11, 2010
'53	Edward L. Wilbourn	Nov. 27, 2010
'54	Dorothy Van-Noy Hines Gary	September 30, 2010
'54	John Samuel Giddens Anderson Sutton Shelton	August 1, 2010
'56	James B. Crocker	October 28, 2010
'60	John B. Cahill Jr.	November 11, 2010
'61	W.R. "Dick" Carey	October 16, 2010
'61	Charles Frederick "Rick" Due	June 27, 2010
'61	Weldon Lee Eaton	July 21, 2010
'67	Vivian Wells Muenzler	August 20, 2010
'71	Diane Gail Henker	May 27, 2010
'74	Deborah Deatly Johnston	June 7, 2010
'76	Victoria "Vicki" Lee Yowell	June 4, 2010
'82	Craig Jordan	September 8, 2010
'91	Bradley James Bolton	June 17, 2010

Friends We Will Miss

Retired Austin College librarian (1979-1987) **Imogene Wyatt Gibson** died June 8, 2010.

Longtime Austin College supporter **Margaret Ann Hill** died August 23, 2010. Memorials may be made to The Margaret and Dale Hill Sponsored Founder's Scholarship.

Retired Physical Plant staffer (1979-1993) **Audis Murphy** died November 19, 2010.

Lillian Pelley, longtime friend and supporter of Austin College, died October 25, 2010.

James Cleo Thompson, Jr., friend of the College and Hatton W. Sumners Foundation board chair, died November 19, 2010.

Annie B. Trotter, retired staff (1969-1985), died October 3, 2010.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Reading by Award-Winning Novelist

Dorothy Allison

February 15, 7 p.m.

Wright Campus Center, Mabee Hall

Kenneth W. Street

Annual Law Symposium

February 25

Wright Campus Center

Commencement Weekend

May 14-15

Look for more details about these and other spring term events on the Austin College website at www.austincollege.edu

AUSTIN COLLEGE Legends 2011 July 15-17

Save the Date!

2011 Legends Weekend

Austin College

July 15 'Roo Reunion of Champions

Honoring the 1981 football team on the 30th anniversary of the National Championship win

July 16 Legends Gala

Recognizing Hall of Honor Inductees, Kedric Couch Alumni Coach of the Year, and winner of the Joe Spencer Award for Meritorious Service and Lifetime Achievement in Coaching

July 17 29th Annual Slats McCord Golf Tournament

Stone Creek Country Club in Sherman, Texas

More information available at
www.austincollege.edu/legends

Hope for the Future

Imagine for a moment that every student in America had access to the same high-quality, public K–12 education. What would be the state of our economy today? Our unemployment rate? What advances in medicine, technology, business, and society would be just around the corner if all our citizens were better educated?

The reality, however, is that today in this country, the quality of the public education a student receives generally depends on his zip code. Fourth graders in low-income communities are already two to three grade levels behind those students in more affluent areas. Only half of these students in low-income neighborhoods will graduate high school by age 18. Those who do graduate will perform only, on average, at the eighth-grade level. The ramifications of this low-quality education reach far into the future of both the student and our society at large.

Only one in 10 students growing up in poverty will graduate from college.

Throughout his career, a person with a bachelor's degree can expect to earn almost twice that of his peer who holds only a high school diploma. A high school dropout will earn \$1 million less in his lifetime than his college graduate peer.

As a nation, we imprison a higher proportion of our citizens than any other. Seventy percent of those inmates cannot read at even the fourth grade level.

Some believe that these discrepancies in educational attainment are inevitable, that poverty prevents learning. Others choose to blame the students or their families for these failures. However, organizations across the country are demonstrating a different truth: that any student from any background will achieve at high levels in a school community characterized by high expectations, quality teachers, and strong leadership. A few examples:

Worcester, Massachusetts, University Park Campus School has a student body that is 70 percent low income. All of its students pass the state high school graduation test, considered to be one of the most challenging in the country, by 10th grade.

At YES Prep, a public charter school network in Houston, 100 percent of graduating seniors have been accepted to four-year colleges for the last 10 years. Eighty percent of YES students are from low-income households and 90 percent are the first in their families to attend college.

Uplift Education is a public charter school network in Dallas whose students are outperforming those in DISD, Irving, and Arlington schools. One hundred percent of its seniors also are accepted to four-year universities; the student body is overwhelmingly low-income and minority.

At West Jasper Elementary in Alabama, 81 percent of students are eligible for free- or reduced-priced lunch; nearly 90 percent of students meet the proficiency requirements on state standardized tests.

My own organization, Explore Schools in Brooklyn, graduates all of our 8th graders to college-preparatory high schools. Our students regularly outperform the city and New York state on annual standardized tests. Seventy percent of our students also happen to be low-income and all are minority.

While it is a shame that our nation has disregarded generations of students in low-income communities, it is inspiring to know that we are now turning the corner. We do not, in fact, have to remedy complex social issues like poverty in order to improve the educational outcomes of our students. We need only to look to the success stories of public schools around the country, learn from them, and replicate their best practices. The future of our nation cannot wait, and neither can our young people.

Catherine Harren Barufaldi '95 is managing director of talent at Explore Schools. Explore Schools is a New York-based non-profit that establishes, supports, and transforms public schools. The mission is to create and support a network of public schools in under-served

communities that provides students with the academic skills and critical-thinking abilities they need to succeed in a college-preparatory high school. Going forward, Explore is shifting its focus to turn around existing public schools.

"We believe, as do many others, that if we make the school right, the students will achieve—every time. Through critical changes in culture, staffing, and resource allocation, we know that any school can ensure success for its students," she said.

Opinions shared in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views or policy of Austin College, its administrators, or its Board of Trustees.





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Elizabeth Gore, coordinator of the United Nations Foundation Girl Up Campaign, spent a day at Austin College in October 2010, speaking at the Posey Leadership Forum and a Women Get Connected event. She recently posted comments about that visit on her blog (www.girlup.org/blog/girl-up-visits-the-posey-leadership-forum-at-austin-college.html)

"I have to admit, I was blown away yet again by how engaged today's students are on a global level — from a campus-wide awareness of international issues to the personal experiences of traveling, studying, and volunteering all around the world — these students have done it all and are truly engaged as global servant leaders."

