

THE PRINCE TURNS 150 / WHEN CANCER PUTS YOUNG LIVES ON HOLD

PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY

OCTOBER 2026



The Braids That Bind

Inside the difficult
conversations
Princeton's Jewish
community has
had in the three years
since Oct. 7

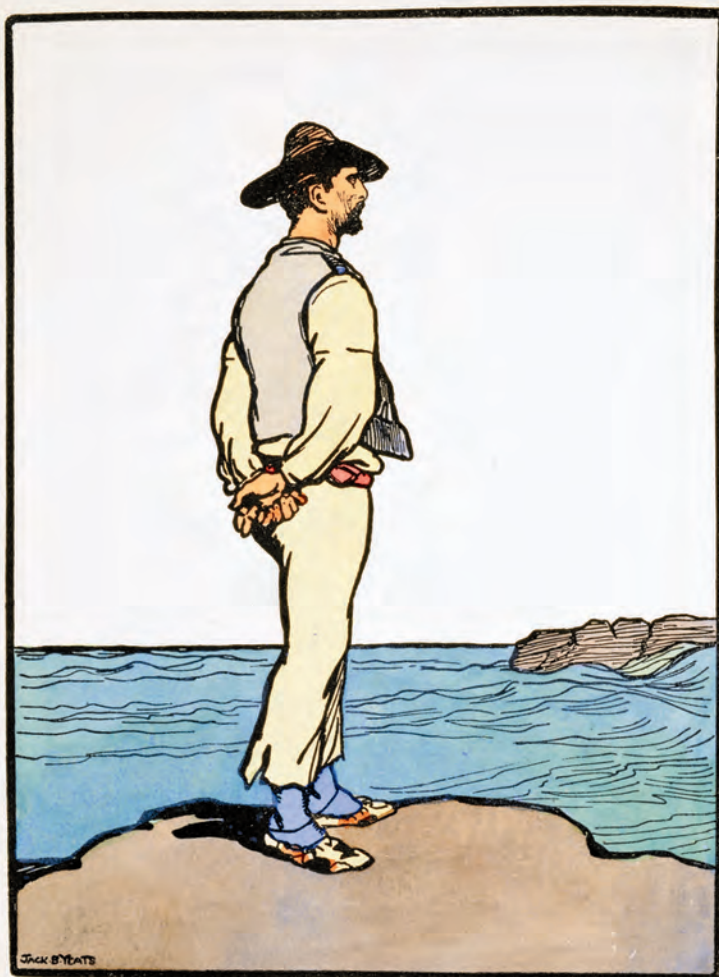
Irish Literature: History & Myth Since 1798

September 18 – January 17

A new exhibition explores how Irish literature provides a model for why art matters in times of crisis and how it functions as an agent of political transformation.

Featuring highlights from the collections of Leonard L. Milberg, Princeton Class of 1953.

Image: J.M. Synge, Jack B. Yeats (illustrator), *The Aran Islands*, 1907.



AN ISLAND MAN

 THE New York
HISTORICAL

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An editorially independent magazine by alumni for alumni since 1900



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BY HARRISON BLACKMAN '17

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ON THE COVER

Princeton's Jewish community is as interconnected as challah, a traditional Jewish bread often eaten on holidays. *Photograph by Kyle Kielinski*

Opening Exercises 2026: 'What You Learn Along the Way'

For Opening Exercises on August 30, we gathered on the front lawn of Nassau Hall to welcome new transfer students and members of the GREAT Class of 2030. The students were in great cheer and laughed with me through a brief downpour, after which blue skies returned for the Pre-rade. These are my remarks, as prepared, from that memorable day.
— C.L.E.

Please let me begin by saying once again what a pleasure it is to welcome you to Princeton! Today we perform a ritual nearly as old as Princeton itself: the University president gives a speech to freshly arrived students. It is easy to imagine John Witherspoon doing something similar after James Madison and his classmates moved into their Nassau Hall rooms in 1769.

Someone might ask why we still bother with such an old-fashioned routine.

I could instead post remarks online, and AI could summarize them for you. You could read the summary and do something else with the time you saved.

You could take a walk and explore this beautiful campus.

Or a robot could take the walk for you. You could deploy a drone to record video and summarize key observations.

I hope that suggestion sounds absurd. Skipping the walk deprives you of exercise. It strips away noises, smells, and impressions that might stimulate your senses and your emotions.

The drone would overlook details that might capture your attention because of who you are, because, for example, they remind you of home or because they are unlike anything you have seen before.

You would miss the serendipitous encounters that might launch a new friendship or excite a new interest.

You lose a lot if you replace a walk with a drone's report. But you also lose a lot if you replace a lecture, or a book, with a few bullet points.

Lectures, essays, and books travel an intellectual path. They are invitations to think along with the author.

As you know from the work that earned you a place at Princeton, scholarly exercise strengthens the mind. Conceptual details stimulate insight. Serendipitous connections among ideas launch discoveries and open new horizons.

Genuinely understanding an argument or an idea is not merely a matter of repeating a conclusion; it requires your intelligence, your presence, your active participation in the train of thought.

A good book or a good lecture is a journey, and if you take that journey you grow because of what you learn along the way.

The easy availability of AI tools may tempt us to skip the journey that makes learning possible, but the capacity, and temptation, to replace learning with summary is nothing new.

Let me tell you a story from the distant past—from a time before AI or even cell phones, a time, in other words, when I was almost as young as you are now.

In the early 1990s, I taught a first-year class to entering students at New York University's School of Law. I devoted the first two weeks to a short, rarely studied case called *Siegel v. Spear*.

I would ask students questions about the case, and then I would follow up with more questions that exposed unjustified assumptions in their answers and surprising mysteries in the text. I wanted the students to learn how much they could discover by reading every word carefully.

In my third year of teaching, something miraculous happened. I asked the questions that had stumped everyone in the past, and students answered immediately and correctly.

I was so impressed! I thought that I had the smartest class ever.

Because the class moved so rapidly through my usual questions, I had time for others that I had never asked before. When I posed them, I got terrible answers. My class of legal prodigies suddenly seemed clueless.

Perhaps you have guessed what happened. Students in previous years took scrupulous notes and assembled them into study guides that they passed down to their successors. In my third year, some of the aspiring lawyers in my class no longer had to think to answer my questions. They simply read the answer from their notes—until I asked a new question.

As I pointed out to my students, they learned nothing by reciting answers collected by their predecessors. Even in those technologically primitive times, computers were already far better than human beings at information retrieval.

The key to becoming a leader in your field is not memorizing answers to old questions. It was, and is, developing the skills required to answer questions that nobody has asked before.

It depends on finding and leveraging the human advantage, the ways of knowing that allow us not simply to consume the products of information technology but to evaluate, critique, harness, and build upon them.

So how can we know which knowledge or skills will be most useful in a world where technology changes with dazzling and dizzying speed?

The honest answer is that we do not know. But that is not new. It has been true for centuries, if not millennia, because one thing we do know, and have long known, is that the world will change in unexpected ways.

At Princeton, we want your education to equip you not only to succeed at your first jobs, but also to become leaders many years from now in a world far different from the one we now inhabit.

Liberal arts universities like Princeton are based on the idea that you should learn both deeply and broadly, so that you will acquire not just knowledge but, more fundamentally, multiple ways of knowing that will enable you to discover, attack, and conquer questions that nobody has yet answered or even asked.

Perhaps I can illustrate the point with another story, from a time when I was even younger than you are now.

¹ Cavafy, C.P. "Ithaka." *C.P. Cavafy: Collected Poems, 1896-1932* (Princeton University Press, 1975), 34.



A brief cloudburst did not dampen students' spirits during Opening Exercises. The rain quickly gave way to sunny skies.
Photo by Ryan Campbell, Office of Communications

When I was in high school, my parents were always worried that I would not be able to find a job. (Does that sound familiar to any of you? Some things never change.)

To avert this crisis, they insisted that I sign up for a typing class in high school so that I would have at least one practical skill.

And when I came to Princeton, they told me to take computer science, which was an ahead-of-its-time requirement in the early 1980s.

My parents were absolutely right about typing. I have benefited from my typing skills every day of my professional life.

Computer programming, not so much. I used it in my senior thesis. But I have not written a line of code in more than forty years.

I am glad that I took computer science. It was part of my liberal arts education and has helped me think about the technological transformation of modern society.

From a purely practical perspective, however, I got much more value from the course on modern literary theory that I took in the Department of Comparative Literature.

That statement would have shocked my parents. But I have no doubt that it is true. As a lawyer, a scholar, and a university president, I have needed to think creatively about how words constitute meaning, community, and institutions. And for those purposes, studying structuralist poetics was far more useful than constructing recursive subroutines.

Human advantage often comes from learning things without knowing why or how they will be useful.

Let me finish with one more story, from the Opening Exercises program that took place almost exactly forty-five years ago, in 1981, when I was beginning my junior year. In

his address to entering students, President William G. Bowen recited C.P. Cavafy's poem "Ithaka," which was inspired, appropriately enough for this Homeric summer, by *The Odyssey*. I want to share with you a couple of stanzas:

*As you set out for Ithaka
hope your road is a long one,
full of adventure, full of discovery. [...]*

*Keep Ithaka always in your mind.
Arriving there is what you're destined for.
But don't hurry the journey at all.
Better if it lasts for years,
so you're old by the time you reach the island,
wealthy with all you've gained on the way,
not expecting Ithaka to make you rich.¹*

As you enter Princeton, I hope that you will not hurry the journey at all. Give yourself permission to savor the experiences and the ideas that make this campus magical.

Linger and reflect, because it matters profoundly what you gain along the way.

It is not the degree you will earn, nor your post-graduation career prospects, it is not the endpoint, it is not Ithaka, but rather the marvelous, challenging, bewildering, sometimes uncomfortable and sometimes awesome journey that will be Princeton's most precious gift to you.

I look forward to our travels together. Welcome to Princeton!

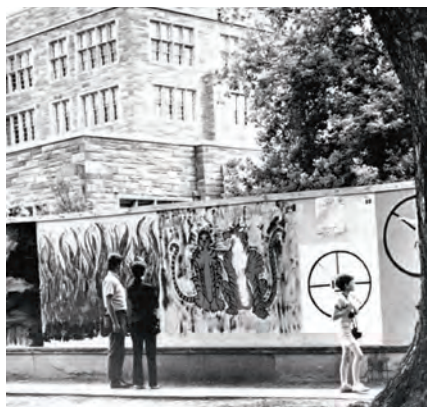


INBOX

YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE LATEST ISSUES

VIBRANT CONSTRUCTION SITE

Regarding the 1986 Firestone Library excavation (From the Archives, June issue): I well remember an earlier excavation,



FROM PAW, JUNE 3, 1969

especially the wooden wall erected around it and the many creative murals painted on the wall.

As a first-year student in 1969-70, I worked at the Student Center in Chancellor Green and walked past the murals on an almost daily basis.

DANIEL ERDMAN '73

Lancaster, Pa.

MIXED MESSAGES

Regarding “Princeton Cuts Pay for Some Mental Health Providers” (On the Campus, July/August issue): Given the financial pressures, which are real, what is the University going to do about making up for the shortfall in providers? The disjuncture between what is being offered and what the students need seems to be growing. As a new member of Tiffanie Cheng Wu '24's Alumni Mental Health Coalition, I have heard students and new alums speak about both internal and external pressures leading to great distress. So the message about taking mental health very seriously and yet cutting rates for much needed providers is inconsistent. What are the next steps to protect the students in these very difficult times?

JULIE LIST '78, LCSW

New York, N.Y.

HONORING THE CODE

The Class of 2030 has a unique opportunity — restoring honor to Princeton. By their conduct, they can convince the administration that Princeton students can again be trusted with proctorless exams (On the Campus, July/August issue).

I have faith in this class. I don't think they will make excuses. They know that AI is only the latest in cheating

enabling technologies that have tempted Princetonians — just like photocopying machines, computers, the internet, and smartphones. They know that Princetonians observed the Honor Code during the tough job market of the Depression.

When almost a third of a class self-reports cheating, it becomes clear that honesty has become a lifestyle choice rather than a core value. Blaming it on AI deflects from the need to address a far deeper problem.

Class of 2030: I hope you take up this challenge and by your graduation, I can read about the restoration of the original Honor Code.

DROR FUTTER '86

Teaneck, N.J.

I'm writing to express opposition and concern. Because cheating is easier should be no rationale for proctoring exams. The implication is, “We expect Princeton students to cheat and perjure themselves when they sign the pledge.” Back in olden times (the 1960s) some departments had open book exams, as memorizing the formula or the table was not expected but knowing which tool to employ was the test. By analogy, Princeton should consider some exams where access to the internet is expected,

while others would be blue books and No. 2 pencils — and cellphones checked at the door. Anyone caught cheating would be expelled. That's what happened in the old ages.

RANDY EVANS '69

Jacksonville, Fla.



JOHN FLEMING *63

FLEMING'S WIT

I was saddened to see in the July/August issue that English professor John Fleming *63 had passed away (On the Campus). I'll never forget his line in the opening lecture of his English course, in about 1970: “By the end of this lecture, you will have heard all of my ideas and seen half of my shirts.”

FRANKLIN FELBER '72

San Diego, Calif.

At my son's graduation in 1998, I was standing inside the FitzRandolph Gate when John Fleming led the whole procession through and toward Nassau Hall.

After a few more paces he was right where I was. This is when, with a twinkle in his eye, he said, “Is anyone following me?”

In 2001, Fleming and I became classmates when he was made an honorary member of the Class of 1971.

ROB SLOCUM '71

Ocean View, Del.

CRASHING REUNIONS

“When Local Teens Crash Reunions” (July/August issue) depicts a variety of ways local high school students infiltrated this year's Reunions. I can tell you this has been going on since at least 1987, when I, aged 16 at the time, was on campus for the 25th reunion of my father,

What Do You Do When the Usual Expertise Has No Answer?

You have been turning these pages for years.

You have seen what your fellow alumni have done with their careers, and I imagine you have built quite a life yourself.

That is what Princeton tends to produce.

And yet there are moments in life when everything you know, everything you've learned, and everything you've accomplished still leaves you with something you can't figure out.

Maybe something has changed.

Maybe something keeps happening.

Maybe everything looks perfectly fine on the outside.

But you know there's something you're missing.

It might even be something you haven't said out loud because you're not quite sure how to explain it.

It's like a graduation with no ceremony, no stage, and no diploma. Just a knowing that you have entered a new chapter without knowing exactly what comes next.

And when that happens, who do you talk to?

Those are often the most interesting conversations.

Sometimes I see a pattern.

Sometimes there's a missing piece.

Sometimes the question someone brings me points to something deeper.

And sometimes seeing one thing differently changes what happens next.

Hi, I'm **Dr. Veronica Anderson Dedegbe**, a fellow Princeton alum.

I have spent much of my life around very smart, accomplished people.

And here's what I know:

“ You can be brilliant and still have a blind spot in your own life.

It's hard to see the whole picture when you're standing inside it.

When I arrived at Princeton, they said I was gifted.

I said, “What exactly does that mean?”

It took years for me to understand.

The gift became clear when I started using it to help other people see things they couldn't see for themselves.

I've had people bring me questions about their **health, money, careers, relationships, purpose and spiritual lives.**

And then there are the other questions.

The strange ones.

The private ones.

The ones that cross so many parts of your life you don't even know what kind of expert you would ask.

The questions that aren't fully formed yet because all you really know is:

Something is going on here.

So if there's something happening in your life that you keep thinking about, wondering about, or simply can't make sense of, ***bring it to me.***



Dr. Veronica Anderson DEDEGBE, MD
Princeton '87

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P.S. Who else are you going to talk to about the *strange stuff*? The deeply personal question. The thing you've never told anyone. The missing piece you know is there even though you can't put your finger on it. **Ask me.**

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INBOX

Bill Swain '62, and when security was more lax than it is now. I met a Princeton High School student outside the gates who asked if I could help him get in. He had somehow obtained an adult 25th reunion button but needed one with a "minor" sticker in order to gain admission. He proposed that I tell the people giving out the buttons that I had lost mine and needed a new one. Which I did, and no one batted an eye. I gave him my extra, and he was able to enter the tent with that one and procure alcohol with his other one. Did he compensate me with alcohol? I'll leave that to your imagination.

ERIK SWAIN '93

Barrington, N.J.

Regarding the comments from high schoolers who crash Reunions for the dancing: Yes! Modern youth is almost totally deprived of dance opportunities that other generations took for granted. Clubs, school dances, balls, formal dancing, square dances, folk dances, church or community hall dances, family weddings ... dances are as rare as an endangered species. I do not blame these kids one bit for sneaking in to dance. And to dance for the sheer pure joy of it, no other motive.

We all love dancing and are supposed to pretend we don't, to be cool. I'm with these girls: Forget the beer. Give me the music! My favorite feature of Reunions is dancing with your friends late into the night.

DORINA AMENDOLA '02

Waverly, Pa.

FOSSIL FUEL INVESTMENTS

Betrayal is what comes to mind in reading about Princeton's decision to abandon its painstakingly developed commitment to dissociation/divestment from the fossil fuel industry (On the Campus, July/August issue). Princo's former president Andrew Golden hit the nail on the head with "our principles should not be for sale." By contrast his successor Vincent Tuohey now argues for "greater flexibility." It is distressing to see Princeton choose flexibility over principle. Does anyone reading this think that global climate conditions are

improving? Does this feel like service to the nation and humanity? With this decision, Princeton has forfeited the leadership it had begun to demonstrate and betrayed the entire Princeton community.

JOHN HUYLER '67

Boulder, Colo.

Perhaps Princo looked at the gains of fossil fuel companies over the past five years (extremely good) and also decided to look at its charter. One of the key goals of Princo must mandate the achievement of high returns in order to fund the University's great needs and generous scholarships.

Germany and much of Europe have suffered greatly from fossil fuel and nuclear power divestment. Let us not repeat their experience.

The divestment movement should spend its time and resources on solvable problems such as landfills, plastics, clean water, electrical grid investment, recycling of windmill blades, and cracked solar panels.

KERRY BROWN '74

St. Petersburg, Fla.

I'm dismayed to read that Princo and the University have reversed their position on fossil fuel divestment. Ironically, the article was sandwiched between a piece about two distinguished alumni (Craig Robinson '83 and Wendy Kopp '89) advising new grads to follow — and even to sacrifice for — what they know is right, and President Eisgruber's call for courage even if it makes one unpopular. Does the Princo board read PAW?

There was a time when those investing in energy companies could reasonably consider "balancing worthy ideals with economic reality" and other can-kicking. Not anymore. As the article notes, the 2022 decision to divest was a moral one. To reverse that with a bottom-line financial calculation misses the point.

In 2026, climate change caused by burning fossil fuels poses primarily moral and ethical issues. To miss those for the sake of ROI is akin to capitalizing on the slave trade, or Nazi industry, or the current dismantling of American democracy.

Princo, follow President Eisgruber's advice: Show the courage to change your mind (again) and get back on the right path.

Also, I read the PAW article in light of ProPublica's report that, a generation ago, persuasive climate change research at Princeton might have been influenced by fossil fuel donors. I look forward to the professors' reply, which the *Prince* says they're preparing. I do not doubt their personal integrity, but we know how "influence" works and so did BP. The idea that Princo is about to fall for that again is baffling.

DAVID BONOWITZ '85
San Francisco, Calif.



COMPUTER MATCHMAKING

Reading "Dating at Princeton. It's Complicated" in the June issue reminds me of an experience during my freshman year as a member of Princeton's last all-male graduating Class of 1969. My roommates and I received by mail or other distribution paper invitations to fill out a questionnaire and send it in with a fee for processing. My internet search reveals that it was probably the Harvard-based Operation Match, conducted in 1965. In response, we participants received by mail the names of at least three women attending college in the broader area.

My roommates, pretending they were also submitting questionnaires,

PAUL ZWOLAK; COURTESY OF MELODY CHU '01; COURTESY OF HANNAH FLOYD '27; 1890 REUNION YEARBOOK, "TWENTY YEARS AFTER," PUBLISHED IN 1910



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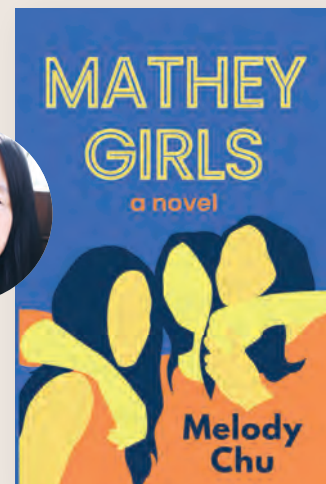
PAW BOOK CLUB

Melody Chu '01

Thanks to everyone who sent in questions about our latest read, *Mathey Girls!* Author **Melody Chu '01** answered them all — about the near-death experience she incorporated into the plot, her decision to self-publish, and why she inflicted her main character with imposter syndrome — and then helped that character overcome it. Listen at paw.princeton.edu or wherever you get your podcasts.



CHU '01



HANNAH FLOYD '27 IN ALASKA

ESSAY

Ecology in Alaska

PAW intern **Hannah Floyd '27** spent the summer of 2025 at a remote research station in northern Alaska as an intern through Princeton's High Meadows Environmental Institute. "I watched grizzlies playing, I foraged for wild blueberries, I dove into the Arctic Ocean, and I was spellbound by huge herds of caribou trotting across the landscape," she wrote. "Protecting this ecosystem is more important than ever."



THE CLASS OF 1890

HISTORY

Memorable Class Scribe

As a translator and theologian, **Walter Lowrie 1890** published 38 books, but Princetonians cherished his shorter works — the witty dispatches of an octogenarian class secretary. **April Armstrong '14** looks back at Lowrie's columns, which President **Harold Dodds '1914** called "the highspot of all the class notes that ever were."

GAMES

PAW Quizlet

How well do you read PAW? If you think your knowledge absorption can stand up to anyone's, here's your chance to prove it. Take PAW's new monthly Quizlet and see if you can answer our questions about each issue of the magazine. Top scorers get bragging rights. Visit paw.princeton.edu/games.

encouraged me to rate myself higher in every category, hoping to get a list of dateable women at my expense. I answered honestly and followed through by contacting two or three of the women. I know I met one who was attending college in New York City for a fun movie and dinner date in Manhattan; I may have met another as well. There was no second date. That summer I met my Linda in

our hometown of Tulsa and we enjoyed 55 wonderful years together before her passing.

GARY WATTS '69
Tulsa, Okla.

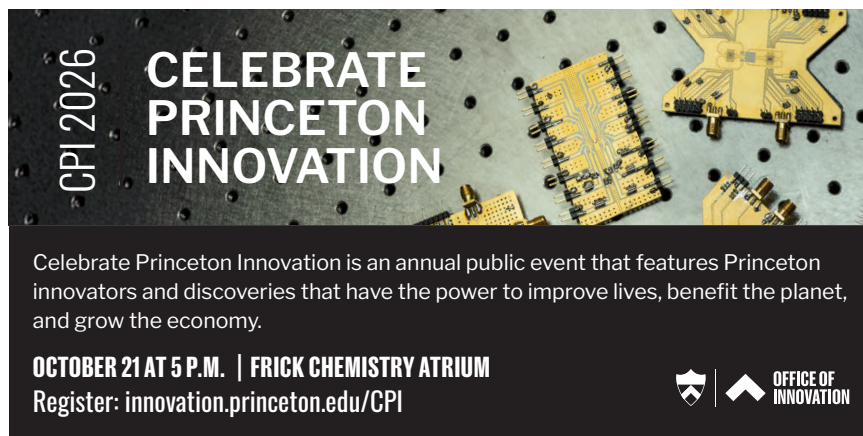
IVY STYLE'S DECLINE

As a naive Midwesterner, I guess I was aware of the Ivy Look in the '60s ("Ivy Abroad," June issue), by reputation in

national magazines. However, when I entered grad school at Princeton in '62, I found the Tiger dress to be considerably more casual. Even *The Daily Princetonian* poked fun at the casual, even sloppy dress of the undergrads, often a grungy T-shirt, chinos or shorts, and, of course, taped Bass Weejuns. To add insult to injury, when grad students tried shopping at the stores on Nassau Street, we were often ignored, upstaged by sloppily dressed undergrads as described (because we didn't have the money that the undergrads did).

I only attended a couple of undergrad classes, but they didn't seem to dress up for that either. Sloppy dress at the eating clubs was notorious. They didn't seem to dress up for meals either, although a jacket and tie were required. Ratty, frayed jackets were quite common as were bad ties tied over the collar of a T-shirt, not a collared shirt. I knew a couple of undergrads and got invited to meals a couple of times and witnessed the ratty looks by many.

ROBERT BUNTROCK *67
Orono, Maine



CPI 2026

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after the Cornell Game

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ALUMNI WEEKLY

YOUR PERSPECTIVE

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ADVANCING PRINCETON

Inform > Involve > Inspire



Princeton undergraduate and graduate alumni, parents and friends make a big impact on campus and advance Princeton's ability to make a difference in the world.

Advancing Princeton celebrates the many ways the extended Tiger family engages with the University, from **volunteering** to **giving** to **connecting** with fellow Princetonians at events around the world.



In these pages, learn how to stay connected. Get inspired by fellow alumni from every generation and every corner of the globe, and find information about all the ways you can engage. This

month, add a TigerSide Chat to your schedule, learn how you can Stand Up for Princeton and Higher Education, and start planning to celebrate the University's 280th birthday on Orange & Black Day.

To find regional, affinity, APGA and campus-based events, read alumni news and features, and discover opportunities to give back, visit the Princeton Alumni website and TigerNet, and follow @PrincetonAlumni on Instagram, Facebook and X.

alumni.princeton.edu

Upcoming Events



OCT. 22

Orange & Black Day: Join fellow Princetonians in celebrating the University's 280th birthday at a regional gathering, on campus, or by simply posting photos to social media.

OCT. 27

TigerSide Chat '**Celebrating Tiger Journalism: 150 Years of The Daily Princetonian**,' with Tom Weber '89, president of The Daily Princetonian's board of trustees; David Baumgarten '06 (The Atlantic); Danielle Ivory '05 (The New York Times); and Jerry Zhu '27 (The Daily Princetonian)



OCT. 31

Homecoming: Come back to campus and enjoy the **Game Day Lecture** and **Tiger Tailgate** before Princeton faces Cornell in football, Yale in women's ice hockey and Harvard in men's soccer.



NOV. 5

TigerSide Chat '**Princeton Precision Health: Understanding the Genetics of Autism**,' with Olga Troyanskaya, Maduraperuma/Khot Professor of Computer Science; Professor in the Lewis-Sigler Institute for Integrative Genomics



▶ Scan to view all the upcoming events.



Stand Up for higher education in your community

The University launched “Stand Up for Princeton and Higher Education” in April 2025 in response to federal funding cuts to research and threats to academic freedom. Since then, more than 11,000 undergraduate and graduate alumni, parents and friends have signed up for the monthly Stand Up newsletter, which provides information for how alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends can make the case for higher education and world-class research that advances America’s prosperity, health and security.

Unfortunately, public confidence has dipped this year, with only 38% of recent Gallup respondents citing they have “a great deal” or “quite a lot” of confidence in higher education (compared with 42% last year). The decline underscores the importance of being an advocate for higher education.

Princeton needs its Stand Up community urgently. As you’re out in your communities this autumn, traveling and visiting with family and friends, tell the story of what higher education has made possible in your life or in the lives of people you know. By sharing personal stories, Princeton alumni can help elevate public dialogue and grow our community of informed and engaged advocates.



Annual Giving matters now more than ever

Annual Giving is one of the most immediate ways to Stand Up for Princeton, and every gift counts. Thank you to every Tiger and friend of the University who contributed to the 2025-26 Annual Giving campaign — your support is more important now than ever before, and you delivered. More than 33,300 Annual Giving gifts combined to total \$79.6 million — the second highest campaign in history.

Because of budget uncertainties associated with federal funding, the University will need to draw even more heavily on Annual Giving and other sources. Unrestricted gifts through Annual Giving directly support Princeton’s educational mission, enabling the University to stay at the forefront of teaching and research and to ensure that talented students from all backgrounds can afford a Princeton education and graduate debt-free. *Make a difference by giving to this year’s campaign.*



This year’s Annual Giving campaign ends on June 30, 2027. To contribute by credit card, please call 800-258-5421 (outside the U.S. and Canada, 609-258-3373), visit princeton.edu/ag or scan the QR code.

Put your Princeton Pride into Action

University Communications and Princeton Advancement have designed a higher education advocacy presentation, and they’re taking it on the road and online for alumni groups. In this 45-minute session, you can learn more about Stand Up and how you can play a role in elevating thoughtful public dialogue. You’ll also gain communications and advocacy tools designed for any situation, get informed about how to respond to common critiques of higher education and practice telling your own higher education story.

If your regional, affinity, class or APGA group is interested in scheduling a session, email standup@princeton.edu.



▶ Scan to get more info and subscribe.

standup.princeton.edu



Alumni Association celebrates 200th anniversary

Since Alumni Day in February, Alumni Engagement and the Princeton Alumni Association have worked together to engage alumni in a (more than) 200-day celebration highlighted by a series of events to commemorate the association's 200th anniversary.

"Our goals for this milestone celebration are simple: to engage as many alumni in the celebration around the world as possible," Ryan Ruskin '90, president of the Alumni Association and chair of the Alumni Council, said at Alumni Day.

It's been an amazing success. The Alumni Council provided Spark Funds to classes, regions, the APGA and affinity groups to

help organize 200th anniversary events on three continents. On campus, there were special bicentennial activities during Reunions and other events where banners and merchandise branded with the 200th logo were available. A 200-themed website promotes bicentennial events in the regions, provides fascinating historical trivia, houses a digital toolkit and photo board, and tracks volunteer hours to inspire Princetonians' shared commitment to service. The festivities conclude on Orange & Black Day (Oct. 22), the annual celebration of the signing of Princeton's charter.



Scan to see all the ways to celebrate.



200.alumni.princeton.edu

Orange & Black Day: Old Nassau turns 280

In a year of historical milestones for Princeton and the nation, this Orange & Black Day on Oct. 22 marks the 280th anniversary of the 1746 charter for the College of New Jersey "wherein Youth may be instructed in the learned Languages, and in the liberal Arts and Sciences."

Orange & Black Day is a worldwide birthday party that provides every Tiger with an opportunity to show off their Princeton pride. This year, the University's celebration coincides with the grand finale to the 200th anniversary of the Alumni Association celebration. Here are a few ways to participate:

1. **Suit up in your best orange and black** on Oct. 22, take a photo or video and visit 200.alumni.princeton.edu for instructions on how to post.
2. **Post your photos and videos** to your social media channels on Oct. 22, tagging @PrincetonAlumni and using #OrangeAndBlack.
3. **Attend a gathering** with your fellow Tigers. Check with your regional association, affinity group, class or graduate cohort if they're hosting a local Orange & Black Day party.
4. **Come to campus** on Oct. 31 and keep the celebration going by attending the Game Day Lecture, Tiger Tailgate and the Homecoming football game versus Cornell.



TIGERSIDE CHATS

TigerSide Chats unveils fall 2026 lineup

Princeton Advancement announced the fall schedule of TigerSide Chats, the monthly series of virtual conversations with University thought leaders. Equal parts lecture and discussion, the series has featured a robust lineup of faculty and staff covering subjects ranging from quantum science and Bob Dylan's legacy to Princeton's changing campus and the new Princeton University Art Museum. This semester's timely topics began with Odysseus' journey to Ithaca on Sept. 22, and will include a celebration of The Daily Princetonian on its 150th anniversary, a conversation about how AI and data-science methods can help better understand autism, and an examination of the American Revolution.

Since the series launched in 2024 as a way to reach alumni virtually and offer them continued learning opportunities, more than 6,200 undergraduate and graduate alumni and friends from 20 countries have engaged with the monthly chats. TigerSide Chats are open to the public and streamed on Zoom at 4:30 p.m. ET. Alumni and friends are invited to register and attend the live sessions. For those who cannot attend, video recordings are published on the Princeton Alumni website. To learn more, visit the TigerSide Chats webpage.

Photos: Denise Applewhite; Sameer A. Khan; Tori Repp

Register now for this semester's TigerSide Chats

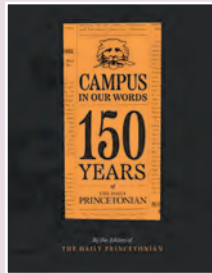


SEPT. 22

Homer's Odyssey

BARBARA GRAZIOSI, Ewing Professor of Greek Language and Literature, Professor of Classics

Visit alumni.princeton.edu/tigersidechats to watch a recording of Graziosi's chat.



OCT. 27

Celebrating Tiger Journalism: 150 Years of The Daily Princetonian

TOM WEBER '89, president of The Daily Princetonian's Board of Trustees, in conversation with **DAVID BAUMGARTEN '06** (The Atlantic), **DANIELLE IVORY '05** (The New York Times) and **JERRY ZHU '27** (The Daily Princetonian)



NOV. 5

Princeton Precision Health: Understanding the Genetics of Autism

OLGA TROYANSKAYA, Maduraperuma/Khot Professor of Computer Science; Professor in the Lewis-Sigler Institute for Integrative Genomics

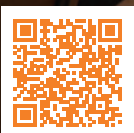


DEC. 16

The Wedge of Allegiance: Loyalties and the American Revolution

MICHAEL BLAAKMAN, Associate Professor of History

alumni.princeton.edu/tigersidechats



▶ Scan QR code to learn more and stream previous TigerSide Chats on demand.

TigerSide Chats are held 4:30-5:30 PM ET via Zoom Webinar.

Open to the public | Registration required



ON THE CAMPUS

NEWS, SPORTS, AND STUDENT LIFE



Grounded in Indigenous Culture

Marianne Nicolson, a Musgamakw Dzawada'enuxw First Nations artist and activist, created a new mosaic for the University Chapel that highlights "the interrelationship between humans, plants, animals, the sky, the earth, and the water," according to the Office of Religious Life. She developed the concept with help from Native and Indigenous student and alumni groups and community members.

The Rev. Dr. Theresa Thames, dean of religious life and the chapel, said the mosaic was installed in August between the front pews and the pulpit and lectern. "We wanted a place where people would encounter it," Thames said. The mosaic is one of several artworks added to the chapel in nearly a century since its opening.

KYLE KIELINSKI



STUDENTS FROM HUO COLLEGE

NEW YEAR

In a Summer Rainstorm, Opening Exercises Welcome Class of 2030

BY NGAN CHIEM '23

BRAVING A BRIEF BUT DRAMATIC downpour, the Class of 2030 and incoming transfer students took part in the University's Opening Exercises on the lawn of Nassau Hall, armed with umbrellas and bingo cards.

"We are going to keep powering through because you are the Class of 2030 and this will be memorable," President Christopher Eisgruber '83 promised the crowd as the light summer mist turned into a cloudburst.

In his remarks, Eisgruber spoke about the importance of a liberal arts education in an age of artificial intelligence and recounted personal experiences as a college student and law professor to encourage students to pursue scholarly exercise of their own minds rather than seek shortcuts.

He closed by reading a passage from the poem "Ithaka" by Constantine P. Cavafy, aptly selected after the recent release of Christopher Nolan's summer blockbuster *The*

Odyssey, to remind students to slow down and enjoy their time at Princeton. Eisgruber added that the "journey" of the next four years "will be Princeton's most precious gift to you."

Bailey Taylor '30 liked the unifying message of the interfaith ceremony, which featured several readings from different faith traditions. He was also impressed that the ceremony continued despite the rain. "That shows spirit," he said.

Originally from the U.K., where the educational system often requires students to specialize earlier in their careers, Taylor said he is excited to experiment with his interests for his first years on campus.

Collin Holifield '30, a transfer from Missouri who served for four years as a technical engineer in the U.S. Army, said he aligns with Eisgruber, who cautioned against using AI's information-retrieval abilities as a substitute for substantive problem-solving.

BY THE NUMBERS

Read more about the incoming freshmen, transfer students, and graduate students at paw.princeton.edu.



"I don't think it's necessarily the use of AI that's wrong," Holifield said. "It's just the inherent disability you're imposing on yourself and your way of learning."

Freshly back from one of Princeton's service- and outdoor-centered orientation programs, Holifield recounted how his Community Action group partnered with Friends of Princeton Open Space to remove invasive vines from trees and helped hand out educational pamphlets at an event in Trenton supporting schoolteachers. Acknowledging Princeton's privilege, he said it was good to interact with communities outside the Orange Bubble.

Derek Chen '30, a Princeton native, participated in another orientation program, Dialogue and Difference in Action, centered around small-group discussions of complex topics. He said the issue of transformative justice — an alternative approach to addressing violence by prioritizing harm reduction in the local community — intrigued him the most.

"I heard a diverse range of perspectives and definitely need some more time to parse it out," he said.

Michael Wei '30, who hails from Florida, participated in Outdoor Action and was excited to go on a camping trip to Pine Grove Furnace State Park in Pennsylvania.

"We went up the mountain, saw the view. It was really nice," he said, adding that his group fortunately avoided a thunderstorm while there.

The same luck didn't follow him to Princeton, however. When asked about his thoughts on Eisgruber's remarks, Wei said he missed parts of the speech because of the rain.

Fortunately, he was able to follow along on his bingo card, distributed by *Tiger Magazine* to, in their words, "help you hang onto every word." Squares included: "'gruber mentions his time at Princeton," "AI hated on in professional lingo," "name-drops famous alum," and "The Princeton Experience®."

At the conclusion of Eisgruber's speech, a few voices in the crowd could be heard saying, "Bingo!"

"We did not win," Wei and Holifield said, laughing as they left Opening Exercises. **P**

The *Prince* Turns 150

As the standard bearer of student journalism evolves, a team effort keeps the publication moving ahead

BY NGAN CHIEM '23

THE DAILY PRINCETONIAN HAS come a long way since its days using a telegraph to report on a Yale-Princeton baseball game at New Haven in 1895 — and being among the first college newspapers to do so, according to Alexander Leitch's 1978 *A Princeton Companion*. Now in its 150th year, the publication continues to innovate and carry the torch of student journalism as the fourth-oldest student-run newspaper in the Ivy League.

Once a daily print publication, the *Prince* has been following a "digital daily, print weekly" publishing schedule since 2021, a move that has increased its digital presence. According to staffers, its website amasses 250,000 views per month.

Other changes include the addition of a mobile app, a daily newsletter with 5,500 subscribers, a daily mini crossword, and a podcast section. Beyond campus news, the publication covers the local municipality, alumni affairs, sports, and culture. The *Prince* now sees nearly 200 student contributors each semester, much more than when it was a daily print newspaper, though its core staff and editors still number in the dozens, according to editor-in-chief Jerry Zhu '27.

With a new student board elected every academic year, the editorial focus of the paper is also ever-changing.

"Some boards have prioritized investigative journalism. Other boards have prioritized opinion pages and getting as many different voices [as possible] from different

segments of the campus," explained Tom Weber '89, president of the *Prince's* board of trustees.

"The era when I was the editor, was, in retrospect, a pretty quiet time on campus [compared to] the big national things that you see shaping campus life these days," former editor-in-chief and current board trustee Gabriel Debenedetti '12 recalled.

Debenedetti, who is also a member of PAW's board, said the paper prioritized longer-term projects back then, such as covering the lives of Princeton athletes, the ongoing gun control debate, and the grade deflation policy, which continues to be a topic of discussion today.

Marie-Rose Sheinerman '23, a former

Prince editor-in-chief and current assistant editor at *The Atlantic*, aimed to continue the paper's legacy as the voice of "truth and accountability on campus" during her tenure at the paper, with notable coverage of student critiques of the Title IX process.

For Zhu, local news is salient grounds for *Prince* coverage. He said campus news is also a priority and brought up the University's recent ban on recording faculty meetings to stress the importance of safeguarding press freedom.

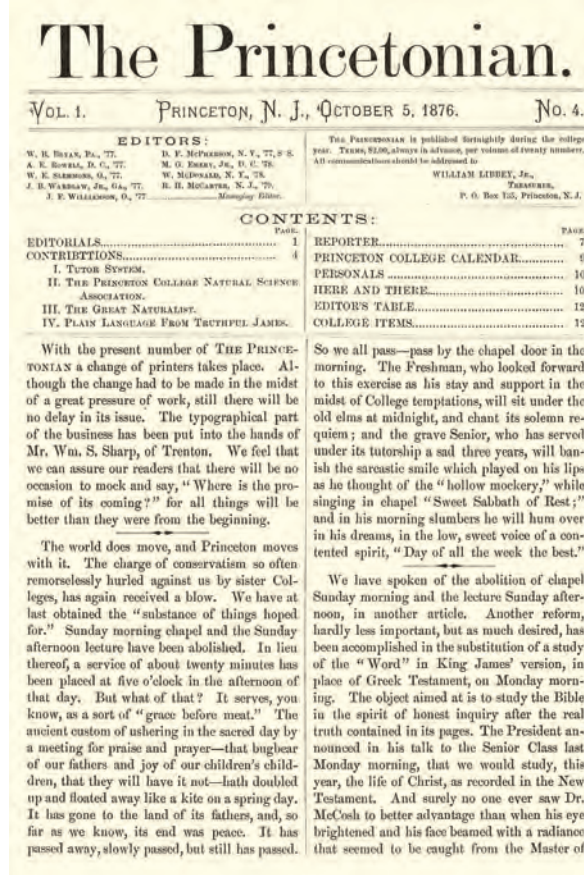
"The Princeton administration has a real respect for press rights, but it's something that we have to continually fight for and advocate for, because if we don't, 10 years later, who knows what's gonna happen," he said.

The *Prince* does not receive direct funding from the University but instead relies on revenue from advertisers and donors to sustain its operations. According to Debenedetti, this financial independence has allowed the paper to

"cover the University without fear of repercussions," and preservation of this autonomy is among the organization's top priorities.

Buoyed by alumni donations, the publication launched a financial assistance program in 2021, providing stipends to students on financial aid who work for the *Prince*, to ease the burden of maintaining another income stream.

Fundraising efforts will continue as part of this year's anniversary, which includes an Oct. 16 gala at the New York Historical featuring keynote speakers Robert Caro '57 and President Christopher Eisgruber '83 and an alumni panel. The *Prince* is also publishing an anniversary book, *Campus in Our Words: 150 Years of The Daily Princetonian*, a student-led project that began four student boards ago. Designed by Andrew Sondern '15, deputy design director of *The New York Times*, the book was expected to be released at the end of September. ■



THE OCT. 5, 1876, ISSUE OF THE PRINCETONIAN



HANNAH FAUGHNAN '23

STUDENT LIFE

Helping First-Generation Students Find Community

BY NGAN CHIEM '23

HANNAH FAUGHNAN '23 HAD never taken a chemistry class before her freshman year at Princeton. A first-generation, low-income (FLI) college student, she came from a public school in rural Florida that had ranked in the bottom two-thirds of high schools in the state when Faughnan enrolled. On top of managing a demanding workload, she was also coping with a parent's cancer diagnosis and changes to her own health.

Faughnan, now a third-year medical student at Rutgers, credits chemistry tutoring sessions organized by the Scholars Institute Fellows Program (SIFP) for helping her succeed during a difficult freshman year.

In her junior year, she became a head fellow for the SIFP program, and through that experience, she realized that her challenges, which she often heard staff and faculty describe as “unique,” were in fact widely shared.

“There were students ... who had suffered loss of parents, immigration issues, so many real-world things, along with being first-gen low-income,” she said. “My experience wasn’t actually that special.”

Faughnan said her ability to relate to adversity made her a better resource for her peers.

SIFP, pronounced “SIF-pee,” is housed within the Emma Bloomberg Center for Access and Opportunity and launched as a small peer-mentorship program in 2015 after years of student lobbying by the Hidden Minority Council for more FLI support throughout the academic year.

Before SIFP, programming for FLI students started and ended with the Freshman Scholars Institute, a summer program that allows incoming FLI students to take courses on campus before their freshman year. But the program did little to dispel the stigma around the identity, according to Ana Maldonado '16.

Maldonado remembered being reprimanded by a residential college adviser for speaking openly about her FLI identity and asking others about their experiences during the Freshman Scholars Institute. Her openness, according to the adviser, made her cohort worried that she would “out” them to the rest of the student body if she continued speaking candidly during the academic year.

The wealthy campus community could be an alienating place for FLI students, who according to Maldonado often faced biased comments from peers about their low-income communities. When SIFP launched, Maldonado signed up to be a head fellow in the inaugural cohort.

In its first year, the SIFP mentorship program served around 100 students and, with funding from philanthropist Bob Peck '88, hired 16 upperclassmen to lead the groups as head fellows. Those numbers have since grown to between 500 and 600 student participants and around 30 head fellows each semester.

“We really built it from a kind of wish and a prayer and a lot of student work,” said Khristina Gonzalez, who first led SIFP as an associate dean of the college and now directs the Emma Bloomberg Center. She said her goal is to make sure all students can experience joy while they’re at Princeton.

SIFP has since expanded to offer a wide variety of programming outside of mentorship and also serves transfers, veterans, and other nontraditional students. From faculty-led campus tours to a hair braiding workshop for Black students to a collaboration with the Office of International Programs to demystify fellowships, SIFP traffics in experimentation to fit students’ needs.

Academic support is still a major focus. In addition to providing tutoring, SIFP organizes specific precepts in collaboration with various departments to provide a more supportive learning environment for FLI students.

“There’s a lot of research out there that shows that some low-income students often feel a sense of imposter syndrome, particularly in gigantic STEM

COURTESY OF HANNAH FAUGHNAN '23

lectures,” said Andy Hakim, SIFP’s director for college success and academic affairs, referring to science, technology, engineering, and math disciplines. When students can instead opt into a precept with peers of a similar background, that’s led by someone more versed in the FLI experience, “it can make [them] feel a little less anxious,” he said.

Simone Acosta ’27, a current Emma Bloomberg Center student coordinator, works with Hakim to introduce and explain the FLI experience to faculty members who may not be familiar with the concept. Having once struggled with imposter syndrome, Acosta focuses on structural factors and not individual shortcomings when describing the challenges FLI students face.

“For example, what’s the level of math that your high school offered, or what was the level of college prep that your school gave you? Did you have a guidance counselor who could help you through that process?” she said.

Framing her explanations in a nonjudgmental way makes faculty receptive to her feedback, Acosta said.

Princeton’s awareness and solidarity around the FLI experience are not always found at peer institutions. Faughnan said she felt more comfortable talking about her FLI background at Princeton than at Rutgers. She attributed this to SIFP’s presence in the campus culture: “SIFP is so strong, in numbers, in support, in level of visibility. It’s not some office in the basement.”

Josh Faires ’20 is a former Emma Bloomberg Center program coordinator and current assistant director for FLI students at Yale. There, he is working to build a similar model of support for FLI students that is “basically mapped off of Princeton’s work.”

For Faires, FLI work is an important part of the American Dream at a time when access to higher education is under attack.

“[Whether] you are a white rural family in Nebraska or you are from an urban city in Manhattan, I do not care,” he said. “What we’re talking about is class mobility, and that ability to say, here’s something that I think resonates with ... the vast majority, if not all Americans.” **P**



COLLEGE ACCESS

Summer Program Preps Underserved High Schoolers for College

BY JULIE BONETTE

THE EMMA BLOOMBERG CENTER for Access and Opportunity’s newest college-prep initiative for high school students — the Lydia’s Scholars Program — is named after an enslaved woman whose entire known history comes from a 1799 bill documenting her sale to a Princeton professor for \$160.

For the last two summers, Lydia’s scholars — 16 this year, 14 last year — have explored the everyday implications of historical erasure and memory. The program’s curriculum centers works with Princeton connections, including Toni Morrison’s *Beloved*, along with classics such as Aristotle’s *Poetics*.

Rising seniors from Hamilton West and Nottingham high schools near Trenton from lower-to-moderate income backgrounds are invited to apply to the program, which is free for students, and are selected based on academic performance and personal characteristics such as commitment to community service and leadership. Preference is given to those who will be first-generation college students.

The program was designed to prepare students for college success by developing critical thinking and leadership skills as well as providing practical college access information. Students not only evaluate texts and the emotions they evoke, but also discuss recurring themes of “absence and historical forgetting,” according to the website.

Naming the program after Lydia was a “way for us to start a conversation with first-generation, lower-income students ... [about] whose stories are told and how and why, and whose stories are remembered and how and why,” said Jason Klugman, senior director of college preparation

initiatives at the Emma Bloomberg Center.

“We wanted the program itself in the name to shoulder the work of carrying on the memory of an individual” who was part of a group that has been largely effaced from history, said Dan-el Padilla Peralta ’06, a former Princeton classics professor who helped launch the program before leaving to teach at Arizona State University.

Lydia’s Scholars got off the ground when Alice McCrum, now a fourth-year graduate student in the history department, applied for a job at the Emma Bloomberg Center. As an undergraduate at Columbia, she had worked with the Teagle Foundation’s Knowledge for Freedom initiative, which supports “underserved high school students” as they “study humanity’s deepest questions about leading lives of purpose and civic responsibility,” according to the organization.

McCrum worked closely with Klugman and Padilla Peralta in 2024-25 to get the program running. She and Padilla Peralta taught the first summer; this past summer, Lexi White and Jael Hernandez-Vasquez, two graduate students in Princeton’s classics department, served as lead instructors.

Students lived on campus for three weeks and started their days with three-hour morning seminars full of conversations, group presentations, and sometimes performances that blended the assigned readings with contemporary music.

“Our lecture halls often felt more like Broadway than a classroom,” said Diamond Tran, a Lydia’s scholar and 2026 graduate of Hamilton West High School, at a graduation dinner recognizing the first cohort. **P**



STUDENT DISPATCH

Ask Me About My Laptop Stickers

BY SOFIA CIPRIANO '27



IF YOU WANT TO GET TO KNOW a Princeton student, looking at the cover of their laptop may be a good place to start. “Asking people about their laptop stickers is the perfect icebreaker,” said Claire Espinosa '27. Stickers function as a physical form of social media — signaling academic majors, club affiliations, and other interests — and most are eager to discuss their curations. We spoke with a few students to learn what their stickers say about them.



The only sticker on class senator **Mihir Tadeparti '29's** laptop is a black-and-orange “Princeton 2029” banner.

When asked about whether he had trepidation displaying Princeton stickers in non-Princeton venues, he said that when visiting friends at other schools, “I’ll put a book over it or I’ll keep it in my bag ... But that’s not something I’m embarrassed of — it’s more like, I don’t want people to think that I think I’m better than them.”

**Sofia Sanchez '27**

created a colorful collage (at left). “Once I had some stickers,” she said, “I wanted to

have more.” Her assortment features organizations she’s joined, like the dance group Más Flow and Cap and Gown, along with a few made by friends, including one that spells “joy” in sign language. Sofia’s twin brother, Ivan Sanchez '27, has no stickers on his laptop; clearly the urge is not biological.

**Tarun Iyengar '28's**

collection (above) includes stickers for the School of Public and International Affairs and the German department — his major and minor, respectively — and a few gifted by his mother and sister. But he puts them on a case, not directly on his laptop. “If I didn’t have a case,” he said, “I would not put stickers on it.”

**Less is more for Naomi**

Segel '28, who keeps three stickers on her laptop: one from Legal Aid DC, where she worked one summer; one from the *Nassau Weekly*, where she’s co-publisher; and a dainty red smiley face. “I don’t want them to clutter it,” she said.



A year and a half ago, **Claire Espinosa '27** was sitting in a meeting with University administrators when she grew self-conscious

about her sticker choices — one that whimsically advertised the “Tomato Appreciation Society” seemed unprofessional to her. She removed it soon after, but a tiny speck of the tomato remains.



“I think the common theme is it’s just all things that I really love,” said **Alistair Wright '27** of his stickers. His collection includes a cartoon of a New

York City bodega coffee cup, a Knicks championship sticker, a logo for his “Hungry Tiger” Instagram account, and a Princeton “P.” Laptop stickers are ideal for showing off your interests, Wright said, “because I’m on my laptop all throughout the day.” **P**

SOFIA CIPRIANO '27 has two stickers on her laptop: one from Coffee Club, where she works as a barista, and one from the Nassau Weekly, where she’s an editor. She’s been asked about them many times.



VASANTH VISWESWARAN '28 AT A VOTE100 EVENT IN 2024

ELECTIONS

Ahead of Midterms, Students and Faculty Push Voter Engagement

BY JULIE BONETTE

P RINCETON STUDENTS AND faculty rolled up their sleeves again this year to get out the vote in advance of the midterm elections, both on the ground and in the lab.

Vote100, a nonpartisan student campaign supported by the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Students that urges all students who are eligible to vote, is now in its 11th year. According to University spokesperson Ahmad Rizvi, Vote100 work “began in earnest during summer 2026” as six undergraduate fellows developed a plan for the fall.

Vote100 fellows reached out to every member of the Class of 2030 and encouraged them to visit TurboVote, a voting information website where they can register to vote and request an absentee ballot.

As of publication time, Vote100 had plans to organize or participate in half a dozen events on and off campus this fall, including National Voter Registration Day on Sept. 15 and an Election Day watch party in Whig Hall on Nov. 3.

“As both students and community members, we must ask questions, stay informed, and show up,” Sarah Kwon '28, one of three Vote100 head fellows, told *Insider NJ*.

In 2024, All In to Vote, a nonpartisan organization that guides college students and campuses through the voting process, named Princeton one of the most engaged campuses for student voting.

Meanwhile, Sam Wang, a neuroscience

professor and former congressional candidate, is continuing to combine science, data, and voting information via his independent nonpartisan nonprofit, the Electoral Innovation Lab.

“For citizens to have the most influence, they need a way to navigate this arcane system of district, state, congressional, and local elections,” said Wang.

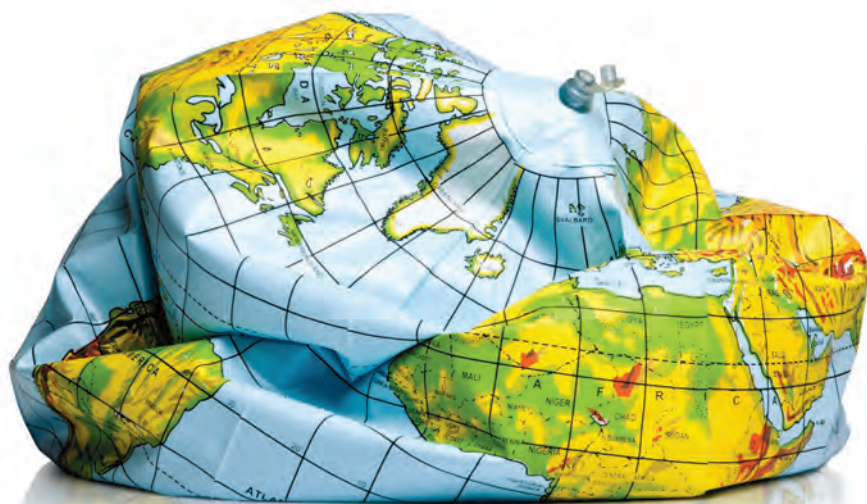
To that end, the lab developed tools such as Vote Maximizer, which calculates where someone’s actions, such as campaign donations, have the most impact in races across the nation. The database includes more than 5,000 U.S. elections.

The lab also published redistricting report cards for congressional maps examining the effects of gerrymandering. About one in seven Americans has moved into a new district over the past year, according to Wang.

The lab’s executive director, Kyle Barnes '21, said one sign of “the discontent of the voting populace, particularly younger voters” is an increase in progressive candidates challenging incumbents.

Separate from his work with the lab, Barnes canvassed for New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani and witnessed the candidate’s effect on young adults.

“His campaign really galvanized a lot of younger voters,” said Barnes, “and what’s been interesting to see now is the way that that’s reverberating in other contests across the country.” **P**



GRADUATE SCHOOL

Four-Year Visa Limit Scrambles Outlook for International Students

BY NGAN CHIEM '23

Editor's note: The international students and alumni interviewed for this article requested anonymity because they feared that speaking publicly could jeopardize their visa status. Each is identified by their first initial.

THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT visa process, already complicated, is facing sweeping developments as the second Trump administration continues its overhaul of the immigration system. Students at Princeton's Graduate School, where international students make up nearly 45% of the student body, said they are trying to make sense of the proposed changes.

Over the summer, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) sought to impose new limits on how long international students can stay in the country, but a federal judge temporarily blocked the move on Sept. 14, a day before it was due to take effect.

Under the proposed rule change, international students on the most common visa types (F-1 and J-1) would be admitted to the U.S. for a fixed four-year period, ending a decades-old policy that allows students to stay in the country through the completion of their programs.

In issuing the temporary injunction, Judge F. Dennis Saylor IV of the U.S. District Court in Boston said the new policy would probably cause "catastrophic" damage to the U.S. economy and higher-education system. He added: "The government's contention that the rule is necessary to safeguard national security borders on the absurd."

DHS general counsel James Percival wrote on X: "Come on a student visa, take one class per semester, and stay here for decades. According to Judge Dennis Saylor, ICE must permit this rampant abuse of our immigration system."

Under the new policy, international students would have to apply for an extension of stay with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, which currently has a historically high backlog of more than 11 million cases, according to the American Immigration Council. Those with the ability to travel may also leave the U.S. and reenter to extend their visa, said Elizabeth Goss, an immigration attorney and CEO of Goss and Associates.

Not much has been shared about the updated extension of stay review timeline. There are currently no options to expedite applications, "so they could

sit forever," Goss said in August. Students are allowed to stay in the U.S. while their application is processed.

R., a first-year Princeton Ph.D.

candidate, holds Canadian citizenship but was born in Iran and fears the association could negatively impact her visa application under the proposed policy change. Speaking before the injunction, she said she was considering whether to complete her degree in four years instead of five but said it would be challenging to produce quality research and prepare for the job market in that tighter timeframe. "It's just a lot of uncertainty," she said.

The new rules also would require students applying for Optional Practical Training (OPT) work authorization after graduation to submit an extension of stay application in addition to the standard OPT application. Nearly 1 in 5 of the international students under Princeton's visa sponsorship during the 2024-25 academic year were graduates enrolled in OPT, according to Princeton's Davis International Center.

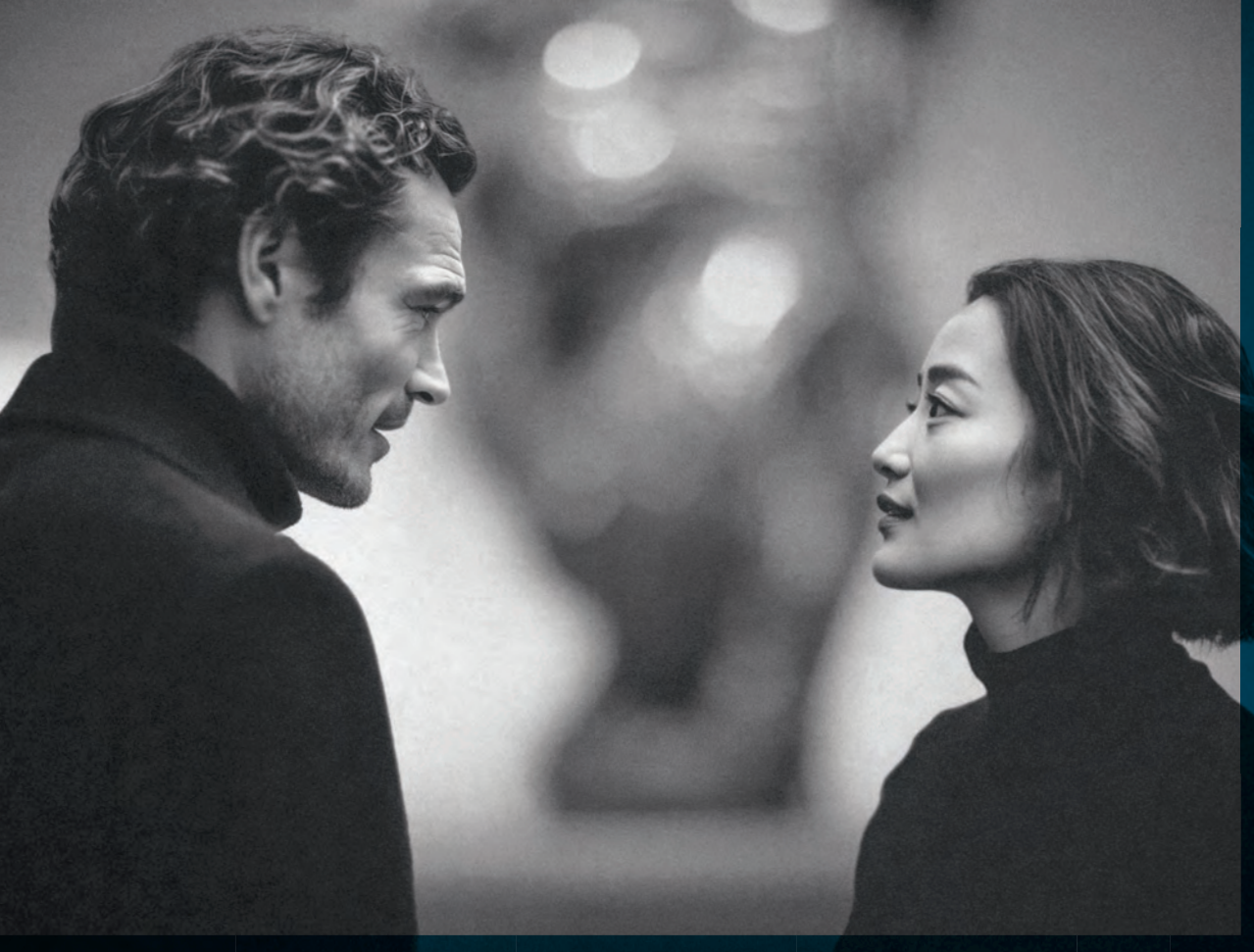
The processing speed for OPT applications, which can only be filed 90 days before a student's graduation date, is already a concern for international students, according to Y., a fourth-year Ph.D. candidate from China. She worries that if her extension of stay is not approved by the time her OPT is, she would not be qualified to work. One of her friends, she said, needed to pay to expedite the OPT application, a fee recently raised to \$1,780, to be able to start work by a certain date.

"I'm just a student, I don't have that much savings," Y. said. "I don't want to pay for that, but if I'm in a situation that I have to pay for that, I will."

Goss, who has been working in the immigration field for nearly three decades, called the changes enacted by the first Trump administration "death by a thousand paper cuts." But the second term, she said, is worse.

"Instead of throwing something at us once a month, I feel like it's once a week," she said. In early August, Citizenship and Immigration Services implemented a new

continues on page 22



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ADMINISTRATION

Staff Cuts Put Princeton on ‘Sustainable’ Budget Path

IN THE SECOND OF THREE planned years of cost cutting, Princeton is on “a faster path than expected toward a sustainable budget,” Provost Jennifer Rexford ’91 wrote in a September letter to faculty and staff. But she cautioned that more changes are coming.

In 2025, Princeton announced a goal of 5% to 10% permanent budget cuts for University departments and units. Since then, staff positions have decreased by more than 3% “through a combination of staff reductions and unfilled vacant positions,” according to Rexford’s letter, which anticipated additional cuts in 2026-27.

Rexford pointed to three primary pressures shaping Princeton’s budget challenges: increased health benefits costs, decreased long-term endowment projections, and “lower and more variable” government funding for research.

On the latter two, the University has some positive news. Rexford wrote that



she expects a strong endowment return (results for the 2026 fiscal year are typically announced in October); and in the summer, Princeton announced two major National Science Foundation awards for the Quantum Leap Challenge Institute (\$279 million over five years) and the Princeton Center for Complex Materials (\$18 million over six years). Still, Princeton’s federal funding declined 25% over the past year compared with the previous three years, according to Rexford’s letter.

In March, the Board of Trustees approved a \$3.4 billion operating budget for the 2026-27 academic year, a 2.1% increase over the previous year. **■** By B.T.

continued from page 20

policy that allows officers to outright reject incorrectly filed visa request applications without first issuing a Request for Evidence, a move that could jeopardize the many applications completed by students without legal assistance.

Associate professor Andrés Monroy-Hernández, who came to the U.S. from Mexico to study at MIT in the early 2000s and is now director of the Human-Computer Interaction Lab at Princeton, said he is saddened by the recent restrictions on international scholars, but thinks there may be an upside to the changes for other countries.

“I think there are more opportunities outside the U.S.,” he said, noting an emergence of strong human-computer interaction programs in South Korea and the United Arab Emirates that were started by his colleagues.

When asked about the Trump administration’s concern that international students educated by U.S. universities will only be recruited by other governments to develop their industries, Monroy-Hernández said that his international colleagues might have chosen to stay in the U.S. if they had received more compelling job offers.

“And those offers could be easier [to come by],” he added, “if the environment was more accepting of international students.”

V. *26, a recent Princeton Ph.D. graduate from India, said the latest restrictions have made it more difficult to travel to conferences or visit home. He is currently unable to visit India because there are no visa appointments available to confirm his reentry to the U.S.

According to U.S.-based law firm Morgan Lewis, the backlog is the

IN SHORT



W. ROCHELLE CALHOUN

Vice President for Campus Life

W. Rochelle Calhoun will retire at the end of the 2026-27 academic year, her 12th at Princeton, the University announced Sept. 8. In a role that oversees athletics and recreation, residential life, diversity and inclusion, health services, and other student services, Calhoun has prioritized community and belonging, health and well-being, service, and free expression, according to a University release. Her recent contributions include establishing a Mental Health Task Force; planning for the new Frist Health Center; and expanding recreation and fitness facilities. In 2018, reacting to clashes over controversial speakers on college campuses, Calhoun led the effort to update Princeton’s guidelines for speech and protest, creating a crew of “open-expression monitors” to attend events. **■**

result of the administration’s new online screening requirements and its discontinuation of third-country visa processing, which allowed travelers to renew their U.S. visa abroad. DHS now requires renewals in the visa-holders’ home countries. For high-demand countries like India, where there are only five visa-processing offices, the wait time could stretch from two months to 10 months depending on the visa type, according to the website Visa Grader, which tracks data from the State Department and other agencies.

Despite the disruptions, V. is still determined to build a career in the U.S. “I think for me, I have invested eight years here, and so it’s a sunken cost fallacy,” he said. “But if someone has a choice, early on, I just don’t think that they would want to pursue that dream anymore, because I think the reality is very different.” **■**



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TED KARNs

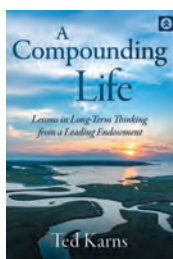
Former Princo Managing Director Imparts Investing Lessons in New Book

BY JAKE CADDEAU '20

TED KARNs SPENT 15 YEARS working at the Princeton University Investment Co. (Princo), joining in 2008 as a senior associate and rising to managing director by 2012, a position he held for the next 11 years. During that time, Karns helped steward one of the largest university endowments in the world, while also recruiting and mentoring successive classes of Princo analysts. Along the way, he discovered that writing down his advice to mentees in essay format helped clarify his own thinking.

By the time he left Princo in 2023, Karns had accumulated roughly a dozen of those essays. “I started looking back at them and realizing there were certain themes that ran throughout,” he says. Those essays became the foundation of his book, *A Compounding Life, Lessons in Long-Term Thinking from a Leading Endowment* (Damn Gravity).

Karns organized the book around four “key areas” of compounding: character, capital, relationships, and purpose. In



one early chapter, he recounts joining the investment office just as the global financial crisis of 2008 was unfolding. He takes readers inside the culture and management style of Princo, reflecting on collaboration, setbacks, and breakthroughs.

In a chapter about risk, Karns details how, shortly after he’d joined Princo and in the lead up to the financial crisis of 2008, the team realized they had overcommitted capital to private equity firms and venture capital funds. Karns suggested selling their positions to secondary buyers, a practice which carried a stigma of being something done by panicked, reactionary institutions. At first, Princo’s leadership shot the idea down, but Karns helped to broker a series of deals which reframed the secondary sales as a strategic reallocation of resources, and ultimately helped Princo

free up liquidity to navigate the tides of the global financial crisis.

Karns also writes about how Princo’s work has helped make Princeton more accessible through financial aid and scholarships. “Seeing the percentage of Pell Grant-eligible students rise from around 8% when I arrived in 2008 to about 22% when I left in 2023, and now about 25%, remains one of the things I’m most proud of. That increase represents thousands of lives changed.”

Other chapters focus instead on personal decisions that helped build meaningful relationships. During the pandemic, for example, Karns began kayaking regularly on Lake Carnegie with a close friend, using the evening paddles to stay grounded in a time of uncertainty. Relationships, like capital, Karns says, compound through consistent care and investment.

Karns’ own path to finance was

not linear. He earned a bachelor’s in international relations, followed by a master’s in political science and a law degree, and worked as a lawyer before transitioning into investing. That unconventional route informs one of the book’s central themes: that careers are rarely built through a single decisive leap, but rather through smaller, cumulative decisions made over time.

Karns says the chapter on learning resilience was the most difficult one for him to write as it centers on his childhood. At 8, Karns lost his father to cancer, and two years later a catastrophic house fire forced his family out of their home. That essay also happens to be the first one he wrote while working at Princo, laying the emotional foundation for much of what followed.

A Compounding Life is both an intimate view inside the workings of Princeton’s endowment and a broader reflection on how the impact small decisions, made consistently over time, can accumulate. “Endowments are one of the clearest expressions of compounding purpose,” he says. “They turn investment returns into scholarships, research, and opportunity for people we’ll never meet.” **P**

MONICA KHANNA



WOMEN'S AND MEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD BOTH WON THE IVY LEAGUE IN 2026.

IVY LEAGUE

What's the Secret Behind Princeton's Winning Ways?

BY BRETT TOMLINSON

FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS, Princeton athletics has been on a roll, a winning streak, a generational heater. Tiger teams won 17 Ivy League championships in 2025-26, tying their own record set the year before, and 28 programs either qualified for the NCAA postseason or sent athletes to national championships. Men's lacrosse won the NCAA title and field hockey was the national runner-up. Women's lightweight rowing and women's squash star Zeina Zein '27 won national titles in both years.

On the strength of its postseason results, Princeton finished 20th in the Division I Learfield Directors' Cup standings, a measure of overall athletic success, one notch below Notre Dame. The top 19 schools spent, on average, nearly \$220 million on athletics, more than four times Princeton's budget for varsity teams.

In an era of college sports often defined by billion-dollar media rights contracts and million-dollar name, image, and likeness (NIL) deals for individual athletes, an Ivy League school would seem to be overmatched. And yet, Princeton keeps winning. How?

"If I had an answer, I'd probably bottle it and sell it," joked John Mack '00, Princeton's athletics director since 2021.

He points to several factors: Princeton's world-class academic reputation, the administration's support for athletics, stellar facilities, alumni donors, and a roster of experienced coaches who are dedicated to attracting athletes who'll be a good fit at the University. "I think it's the combination of all of those things, plus a culture that values success," Mack said. "We talk about winning a lot, but we don't talk about winning for winning's sake."

"Culture" may be an overused term, but Mack can point to examples of what he means. For instance, each summer his

"There will always be a pool of really exceptional students who just happen to be phenomenal athletes who want the kind of experience that we provide, where you don't have to sacrifice your academic pursuits and ideals for your athletic pursuits and ideals."

— JOHN MACK '00
Princeton athletics director

department hosts a coaching summit for the staffs of all 38 varsity teams, allowing coaches to share ideas and discuss what's working (or isn't) in their own programs.

"It's really cool," said Abby Brethauer, who has led her team to championships in each of her three years as head coach of Princeton women's swimming and diving. "It's all coaches — so from the third assistant to, you know, Matt Madalon, who just won a national title — and we're all in the room together."

High on the list of topics is recruiting, a challenge for all Princeton coaches and the first step to a successful team. "If you want to win an Ivy League title, in any sport, you have to recruit athletes who aspire to compete at the national level," said Jason Vigilante, head coach of men's track and field and cross country, whose teams have swept the Ivies for three straight years.

For Carla Tagliente, who has led field hockey to four NCAA Final Four appearances, that often means recruiting athletes who are being wooed by other prestigious schools (Duke, Northwestern) that offer athletic scholarships. But for every perceived recruiting disadvantage Princeton might have, Tagliente has a counterpoint. While the Ivies have never had athletic scholarships, Princeton has arguably the best financial aid in the country. Princeton doesn't bring in transfers, but that gives the athletes who come here a chance to develop over four years — and not worry about a star transfer taking away their playing time.

Yes, academics are difficult at Princeton, Tagliente said, but coaches recognize that and create more balance for players, who learn to handle their coursework amid busy in-season schedules. "I tell kids in recruiting, 'When you leave here, no one's going to hand-hold you through your job just because you played a sport,'" she said. "They're learning critical skills that will then also be transferable into the real world for them. I think it's an advantage."

Brethauer said she looks for recruits who appreciate Princeton's swimming tradition and want to build on it. It's a common theme in an athletics department that has real history, winning more Ivy team championships than any other school and more than double the



Princeton's Ivy League Titles Since 2015-16

Women's Sports*	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20**	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Basketball			●	●	●	●	●	●		●
Cross Country	●								●	●
Fencing	●	●				●	●	●		
Field Hockey	●		●		●		●		●	○
Golf		●	●			●			●	
Ice Hockey	●			●						
Lacrosse	●	●	●	●		●			●	○
Rowing (open)	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●
Soccer	●		●	●					●	●
Softball	●	●				●	●	●	●	●
Squash										●
Swimming & Diving					●		●	●	●	●
Tennis	●		●	●		●	●	●		●
Track & Field (Indoor)									●	●
Track & Field (Outdoor)									●	●
Volleyball	●	●	●		●		●		●	●

Men's Sports*	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20**	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Baseball	●									
Basketball		●				●	●	●		
Cross Country			●	●		●	●	●	●	●
Fencing	●	●						●	●	
Football		●		●		●				
Golf				●			●		●	
Ice Hockey										
Lacrosse							○	○		●
Rowing (Heavyweight)										
Rowing (Lightweight)							●			
Soccer				●		●			○	●
Squash								●		
Swimming & Diving	●								●	●
Tennis										
Track & Field (Indoor)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Track & Field (Outdoor)		●	●	●		●		●	●	●
Wrestling					●					

● Ivy League Champion ○ Ivy League Tournament Champion ● Ivy League Regular Season and Tournament Champion

* Five teams compete in sports that do not have Ivy League championships (women's lightweight rowing, women's rugby, men's volleyball, and men's and women's water polo). ** The Ivy League suspended athletics from March 2020 to August 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

SOURCE: GOPRINCETONTIGERS.COM

titles of every league rival except Harvard. Since 1974-75, the first full year of women's championships in the league, Princeton has averaged 10 Ivy titles per year.

Tradition also plays a role in fundraising. "Athletics philanthropy is huge," said Allison Rich '91, who recently served as athletics director at the University of New Hampshire following nine years as a senior administrator at Princeton. "When you don't have the giant budgets of some of the schools you're competing against, to be able to take a foreign trip for development purposes or to add equipment that helps monitor heart rate or workload, for example ... that makes a big difference."

Tiger Athletics Give Day, the

department's annual fundraising push, raised nearly \$6.7 million in December, with donations from more than 6,000 alumni and friends. The University has also received major gifts from alumni for recent facility additions including Cynthia Lynn Paul '94 Field (softball), Haaga House (rugby), Wilkinson Fitness Center, and the Class of 1986 Fitness and Wellness Center.

Even with that backing, Princeton's athletics budget is not an outlier. Princeton spent \$50.3 million on varsity sports, the third highest total among Ivy schools, in 2024-25, the most recent year recorded in the U.S. Department of Education's Equity in Athletics Data Analysis. Yale topped the list at nearly \$78 million, while Dartmouth landed at the bottom with \$42 million.

Reputation, like tradition, might be part of Princeton's lasting success. Some Ivy schools are perceived as sporty, others less so. Jonathan Tannenwald, a *Philadelphia Inquirer* sportswriter and 2006 Penn grad, recalled that when he toured Columbia as a prospective student in the early 2000s, the guide said the campus didn't care about sports and was proud of that. A quarter century later, students in Morningside Heights may feel differently: Lions teams have won Ivy titles in football, baseball, women's basketball, men's tennis, and men's and women's fencing in recent years. "Whatever hierarchy there is," Tannenwald said, "it could change at any time."

Indeed, while Princeton's top-20 ranking in the Learfield Directors' Cup was impressive, Yale (45th) and Harvard (48th) were not far down the list. Penn, Yale, and Columbia also finished in the top 80 among the 301 Division I schools ranked. The Ivy League placed fifth among conferences, behind the SEC, Big Ten, ACC, and Big 12.

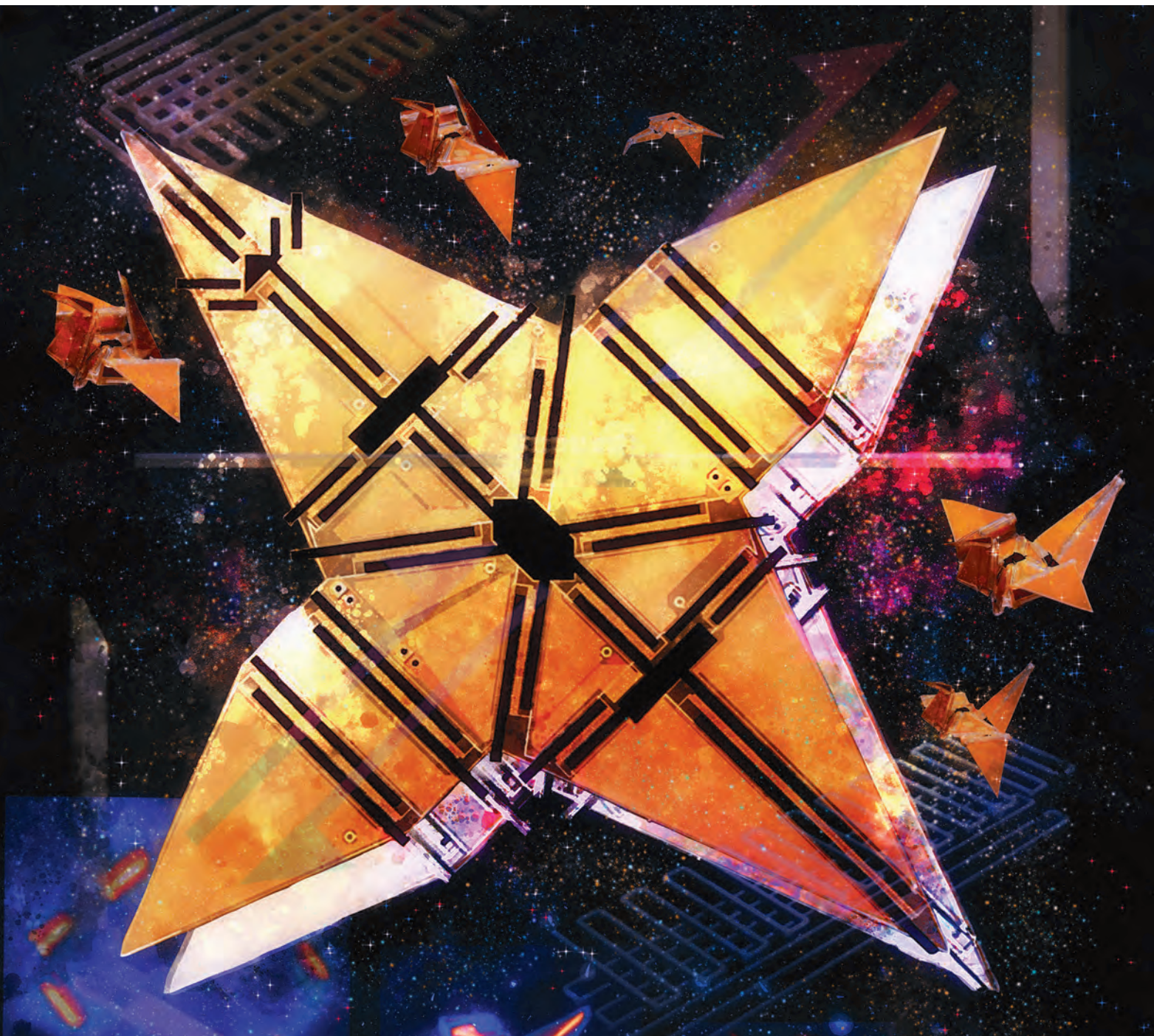
Princeton's success may be part of a larger story about the Ivy League's enduring place in college sports in spite of — or maybe because of — changes like NIL, revenue sharing, and the transfer portal that have blurred the distinction between collegians and pros. Men's basketball has seen some star players depart as transfers, but in most sports, Ivy athletes still stay and play four years. "There will always be a pool of really exceptional students who just happen to be phenomenal athletes who want the kind of experience that we provide, where you don't have to sacrifice your academic pursuits and ideals for your athletic pursuits and ideals," Mack said.

So even when the ball doesn't bounce the Tigers' way, in the years when teams win, say, 11 Ivy trophies instead of 17, Mack can measure success in the conversations he has with team captains who tell him about the classes they're taking, the internships they've completed, and the career goals they're chasing. "For me, it's one of the barometers that we're still doing it right," he said. "Princeton's still changing lives, and athletics is still a fantastic vehicle to do that." ■



RESEARCH

ADVANCING THE FRONTIERS OF KNOWLEDGE



Flap and Fold

Expanding on his thesis, David Bershadsky '24 and other Princeton engineers have designed soft robots that can move and shift without a motor or external controls. Using printable polymer, flexible electronics, and folding techniques based on origami, the researchers built a robot in the shape of a crane, pictured in this illustration, that can flap its wings. To move, the robot relies on targeted heating in the polymer, allowing it to fold and unfold without wear and return to its original shape. Led by professors Emily Davidson and Glaucio Paulino, the team published these findings in the journal *Advanced Functional Materials*. Among this project's real-world impacts is the potential for the robots to work as medical implants.

IMAGE BY AUDREY ZHANG /
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

HOBLEY
BAKER 1914

CTE FINDINGS

Did Hobey Baker 1914 Suffer from a Repeated Brain Injury?

A new research paper examines the sports legend's exposure to violence and circumstances leading to his death

BY WAYNE COFFEY

WHEN MICHAEL POPKIN '65 returned to Princeton for his 25th reunion, he knew there was one stop he had to make. He wanted to take his 11-year-old son, Charles, to see Baker Rink, the University's historic hockey facility and a shrine to Hobey Baker 1914, widely regarded as one of the greatest athletes ever to compete for the University and one of the best amateur sportsmen in American history.

Popkin learned to skate at Baker Rink as a youngster growing up in Trenton, but the visit wasn't driven by nostalgia. Charles, born and raised in Minnesota, loved sports and was a good athlete. His sporting idols were Minnesota Twins center fielder Kirby Puckett and U.S. Olympic gold medalist Neal Broten, the youngest player on the "Miracle on Ice" team that beat the Soviets in Lake Placid

in 1980. But now, it was time for him to be introduced to Baker.

The lesson took root for young Charles Popkin, lighting a Hobey Baker lamp that still hasn't gone out. Shortly after his visit to the rink, he did a book report on *The Legend of Hobey Baker*, a biography by former PAW editor John D. Davies '41. He read voraciously about Baker's feats, imagining his end-to-end hockey rushes, weaving through opponents as if they were traffic cones, and his punt returns, which he'd field on a dead run almost daring defenders to try to bring him down, playing both hockey and football without a helmet and without fear. He learned, too, about the tragic end of Baker's life in a mysterious plane crash amid widespread accounts of erratic behavior, depression, and rampant risk-taking.

Years passed. Like his father, Charles

Popkin became a doctor, a prominent orthopedic surgeon who has been the team physician for a number of USA Hockey youth teams. With player safety top of mind, he immersed himself in scientific studies linking repetitive head impacts to neurological damage and chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), a progressive degenerative brain disease. His fixation on Baker only intensified after reading Tim Rappleye's 2018 book, *Hobey Baker: Upon Further Review*, and rereading Davies' work, which recounts the hits Baker took on the field and ice.

Popkin couldn't stop asking himself one question: "How could a guy who embodied everything an American should strive for, who was literally the golden Adonis who could do no wrong on the field and was kind and humble off of it, wind up the way he did?"

Popkin posits his answer in a new paper in the journal *Frontiers in Neurology* called "Consequences of repetitive head trauma: a historical reappraisal of Hobey Baker."

Baker went to work on Wall Street

after graduating Princeton. He got his competitive fix playing in an adult hockey league that was amateur in name but populated with semipro Canadians, many of whom lived by the same credo as Baker's Ivy League opponents: "Get Baker." He was routinely tripped, kneed, punched, and smashed into the boards. In one game, Baker received such a fierce beating that a fan in the stands shouted, "Why do you not get a club and finish the task quickly?" In the same season, he was tripped and crashed into an iron goal post, hitting it with such force that he was unconscious for minutes. The gridiron had been no different, with Baker routinely getting roughed up because it was the only way to beat Princeton.

Rappleye's account chronicles Baker as a man adrift in the world and in a downward psychological spiral in his post-Princeton years. The same person whom his fellow Princetonian, author F. Scott Fitzgerald 1917, extolled as "an ideal worthy of everything in my enthusiastic admiration" often seemed dark and distracted, and searching.

"I realize that my life is finished ... no matter how long I live, I will never equal the excitement of playing on the football fields," Baker once confided to a friend.

Baker had little use for finance or the business world. He began to smoke heavily and engaged in risky antics. He had taken aviation courses while he was a banker and enlisted in the Army Air Service, joining the World War I effort in France. Although logistical problems kept him out of combat for more than a year, he was eventually credited with shooting down as many as four enemy aircraft and got promoted to captain. He was energized by the thrill of combat but remained troubled by what he considered an uncertain future.

Baker tried to extend his time in France but was denied. On Dec. 18, 1918, he was given his papers to return home. He decided to take one last flight, but instead of flying his own plane, he opted to fly an aircraft that he was unfamiliar with. It had just come out of the repair shop. He took off in a driving rain and leveled out at 600 feet, and then the engine failed. Rather than glide the plane down to an emergency landing, he reversed course and headed back to the airfield, a cardinal sin among experienced aviators. The plane plummeted, crashing nose first. Baker was dead at age 26. His discharge papers were in his pocket.

The initial reports cited engine failure as the cause of the crash, but people close to Baker, who knew how stressed he was about returning home and how despondent he was about his recent broken engagement, wondered if that's all there was to it — and whether he may have wanted to take his own life. It has been the subject of debate for over 100 years, no closer to resolution than it was in 1918.

"At the end of the day we'll never know if Hobey Baker had CTE or not," Popkin says. "[But] I don't think anybody can argue that he had the exposure for this diagnosis, and the altered decision-making and personality changes certainly fit it."

Twenty years have passed since CTE was first scientifically linked to football, and the data — for all sports that involve violent collision — only seems to get more



CRITICAL CRASH

Hobey Baker 1914's plane crashed at Toul Aerodrome in France in 1918. Engine failure was cited as the cause, but those close to him wondered if Baker died by suicide.

alarming. According to a study published in August in *The BMJ*, at least 215 of the 878 NFL players who died between 2016 and 2021 — or 24.5% — had CTE. That does not include the 643 brains that were not examined. Of the 235 brains examined, more than 90% had CTE. Popkin called the results "deeply concerning."

CTE can only be diagnosed by studying someone's brain after death, which makes it difficult to pin down how widespread it is. But Popkin believes it's imperative to understand the risks of sports that he calls "intrinsically dangerous." In a 2023 study published in *JAMA Network Open*, Popkin looked at life expectancy data for 6,039 NHL players from the period of 1967 to 2022. He found that enforcers — a group he defined as players who engaged in 50 or more fights in their careers or averaged more than three penalty minutes per game — died on average 10 years younger than their peers. Moreover, enforcers died in disproportionate numbers from drug overdose and suicide.

A separate study in 2024 of 77 deceased male hockey players by the Boston University CTE Center found that the odds of having CTE increased by 34% every year of a player's career. It found that 18 of the

19 NHL players studied had CTE.

Alan Reynolds '11 was a four-year goaltender for Princeton men's hockey team. He went on to medical school, studied as a fellow under Popkin at Columbia, and says he was honored to work on Popkin's draft of the *Frontiers* paper. While he's an orthopedist and not a neurologist, Reynolds says he was impressed with his mentor's commitment to unraveling the Baker conundrum: "Charlie has devoted a lot of time, effort, and research into making hockey safer. ... The more information and research we have, the more we are able to make informed decisions about safety."

This December, Popkin will be the Team USA doctor for the World Junior Championship in Canada. For a former hockey player and lifelong fan of the game, assignments don't get much better. Popkin will say goodbye to his wife and kids, and his 3-year-old dog — named Hobey — and head to western Canada, his singular mission to make the game safer. It's the best way he knows to honor the legacy of Baker.

"Taken together, I think the football and hockey data send the same baseline warning: Cumulative exposure to repetitive head impacts matters, and we should reduce avoidable exposure wherever possible," Popkin says. "I would argue that is the lesson we learned from Hobey Baker, too." ■



MUSIC

Professor Probes Impact of Tunes When We Daydream

Elizabeth Margulis' book melds neuroscience and psychology to answer questions about humanity's relationship to music

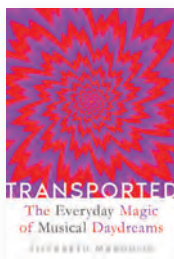
BY KATHARINE GAMMON '03

E LIZABETH MARGULIS HAS SPENT much of her life at the piano, steeped in the disciplined world of conservatory training. But it was only later — through years of teaching and listening closely to her students — that she began to question the rigid assumptions she'd absorbed about what it means to actually listen to music.

"There was a little bit of a reeducation I experienced across the course of my adult life," she says, "that really revealed to me how important inattention can actually be to musical experience, and how rich the experiences are that people can have when they think they're not listening to the music at all."

That perspective is at the heart of her new book, *Transported*, which explores an underappreciated aspect of musical life: the inner wanderings of the mind when we think we're not paying attention.

Margulis, professor and acting chair of the Department of Music, says she believes that inattention is not a failure



of listening, but one of its richest forms. Music, she argues, often works best when it loosens our grip on the present and ferries us into private, vivid, and sometimes surprising daydreams. Those moments when our thoughts drift — on the subway, in a concert hall, with headphones on in bed — are cognitive work, not distractions.

Take the 2016 romantic musical comedy film *La La Land*, which ends with a long, dialogue-free imagined scene. As Ryan Gosling's character begins to play the piano, the world around Emma Stone's character dissolves, pulling viewers into an alternate life. But as soon as the music stops, the fantasy collapses, and she's back in a dim basement bar. That's how music works, Margulis says: "You're off in your own head, in this sensorially rich world, carried there by the music, whether you know it or not."

The book builds off research Margulis has done in the Music Cognition Lab. In one experiment, Margulis and her collaborators bring people into the lab, play them unfamiliar pieces of music, and ask them to describe what they imagined. Using natural language processing to analyze these narratives, the team has found that listeners exposed to the same music often conjure surprisingly similar kinds of stories — despite experiencing them as intensely personal.

In brain imaging studies, Margulis has shown that particular musical excerpts can elicit distinct patterns of activation in the brain's default mode network, a system associated with spontaneous thought, mind-wandering, and a sense of self.

The book also ventures far beyond Western concert halls. With support from the National Science Foundation, Margulis conducted research in a remote cluster of villages that speak the Dong language in Guizhou, China, where residents have had very limited exposure to Western media. Villagers there readily imagined stories when listening to music, and their narratives converged with each other — but diverged sharply from those of American listeners. An ominous passage that Americans heard as a stalker scenario, for instance, was experienced by villagers as friends playing happily outside. These contrasts, she argues, open up a powerful way to "get behind the ears" of others and talk across cultural and generational divides.

The modern world may make it harder to find the time and space for this kind of inner wandering, Margulis says. Spare moments are now often filled by scrolling, but music may function as a "last refuge for the daydream," that allows the mind to roam freely. She is interested in how music's capacity to shift interior thoughts could translate into clinical settings for people with anxiety, depression, or dementia. "Music kind of reduces things down to just this one sensory dimension," she says. "It provides this space to go inward and have this roving mental experience that is increasingly rare." **P**



BEHIND THE RESEARCH: BARBARA GRAZIOSI

Bringing Ancient Texts to Life

BY MARK SYP '05

WHILE ANCIENT TEXTS MAY BE VIEWED AS OLD AND UNCHANGING, professor Barbara Graziosi's research looks at the ways that people throughout history have interpreted and adapted them, and she ensures that these works continue to evolve and survive. She uses innovative methods and collaborates with a diverse range of individuals, including computer scientists and professional dancers, to gain deeper understanding of these writings. She credits her desire "to find new meaning in old things" to her upbringing in Italy, where reconfiguring the past into something new and beautiful is an intrinsic part of Italian culture and creativity. While studying abroad, she was also struck by the way different cultures brought their own distinct approaches and interpretations to ancient texts. In the same way that these works went from oral tradition to written, she feels that her work represents the next step in their ongoing evolution.

Quick Facts

TITLE

Professor of Greek Language and Literature and Classics

TIME AT PRINCETON

8 years

RECENT CLASS

Interdisciplinary Approaches to Western Culture

GRAZIOSI'S RESEARCH

A SAMPLING

LOGION PROJECT

Graziosi leads the Logion Project, a collaboration between the classics and computer science departments at Princeton. The project, named for the Greek oracles, is developing a neuro-linguistic programming tool to aid in the restoration and understanding of ancient texts. The endeavor was inspired by a conversation Graziosi had with math major Charlie Cowen-Breen '22, a co-founder of the project. The machine learning model has already provided insights into how translators might "fill in the blanks" on several texts where passages have been lost or corrupted, Graziosi says. While the AI model is helpful, Graziosi notes that it's only a tool and, like its namesake oracles, still requires human interpretation. Efforts are also underway to digitize the texts.

LIVING POETS

Through the Living Poets Project, Graziosi explores her belief that ancient texts can reveal as much about the people interpreting them as the world in which they were created. For example, many cultures have a version of the poet Homer that aligns with their world and values. She notes that recent movie adaptations of *The Odyssey* by Christopher Nolan and Uberto Pasolini continue the tradition, placing the story within modern narratives about rebuilding a civilization and soldiers returning home, respectively. "In times of uncertainty, we need to reach back in time in order to project ourselves into the future," Graziosi says. She is currently working on a book about Sappho that focuses on the poet in a historical context, while also establishing a dialogue with



Ballet, on a project to recreate the dances of antiquity and examine how methods beyond words can be used to learn about the ancient world. Since we only have texts and objects depicting movement in antiquity, dancers will be recreating those representations in a physical space, Graziosi explains. The dancers will be drawing inspiration from artifacts in Princeton's collections that depict these dances, including several items from the ancient city of Antioch, known as

the various ways she has been interpreted over the years.

DANCES OF ANTIQUITY

Graziosi is collaborating with Sara Mearns, the principal dancer at New York City

"the ancient capital of dance" and a cultural crossroad of antiquity. The ongoing project commenced in late September with an event at NYU featuring a lecture by Graziosi and a performance by Mearns. **P**



ARM IN ARM

*Students gather on Oct. 7, 2024,
to mark the first anniversary of
Hamas' attack on Israel.*

JOHN EMERSON

Holding on to Jewish Life

How students and alumni are navigating religion, politics, and identity after Oct. 7

BY JULIE BONETTE

FOR ZACH DUCORSKY '26, SPENDING TIME AT the pro-Palestinian encampment in the spring of 2024 was an important way to show solidarity with the movement as a Jewish student at Princeton.

"A lot of good things came of the encampment ... good interactions, good conversations, good arguments as well," says Ducorsky, who adds that he did not participate in protests but wanted to be present to challenge the perception that Jewish students felt uncomfortable on college campuses as activism surrounding the Israel-Hamas war reached a peak at Princeton and across the nation.

"When there's no Jewish voice that's opposing the narrative, then it becomes ... easy to weaponize antisemitism" and assume that "all Jews on campus monolithically believe X. And when there's at least one opposing voice, then the conversation can't be had that 'All Jews feel X, Y,'" he adds.

One Friday night, Ducorsky headed from the encampment to the Chabad House, where he was a member of the student board, for Shabbat dinner with his classmates, many of whom held different views about the protests. Leah Powell '26, who later became president of Chabad, was among them.

"We did talk about why he was [at the encampment], and we did get into a little bit of a friendly argument about what his goal was in doing that," she says. "But he still came to Chabad and felt comfortable in the space, and I thought that was very special."

Their interaction is emblematic of the difficult conversations many Jewish Princetonians have been having

since Oct. 7, 2023, the day Hamas attacked Israel, killing about 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals and taking 251 people hostage. The ensuing war has resulted in the deaths of more than 70,000 Palestinians and drawn intense scrutiny to Israel, while also contributing to rises in antisemitism and Islamophobia.

As in Jewish communities outside of Princeton, those conversations have meant navigating different perspectives on whether Israel is committing war crimes, how central Israel is to Jewish identity, what it means to stand in solidarity with Jews and Palestinians, and what does or does not constitute antisemitism. Those differences have tested friendships, families, and communities.

Yet PAW found that conversations within Princeton's Jewish community — on campus and in alumni circles — have often, though not always, taken a more measured and civil tone, perhaps in part because the Princeton experience aims to value differing viewpoints.

PAW attended a Reunions panel on the topic and spoke with the heads of the University's two largest Jewish spaces, Chabad and the Center for Jewish Life (CJL), as well as current Jewish student leaders and alumni. The group included people spanning generations and perspectives: from the Class of 1964 to the newest graduates; from the political far left to conservatives; undergraduate and graduate alumni; Americans and Israelis; and people working on the ground in the Middle East and in Washington, D.C.

Perhaps the only thing everyone agrees on is that it's impossible to agree. That's partly because Judaism is not just a religion — and some Jews don't consider themselves religious — but also an ethnicity, an ancestry, an identity, and a culture. For some, Jewishness is central to their lives; for others, it is less so.

Ducorsky put it like this: At Princeton, “most of the people I spoke to were able to have a reasonable, rational conversation, even if they disagreed.” He says that may help explain why Princeton's protests looked different than those at other schools, such as Columbia — because Princetonians “were willing to have an actual conversation and actually did have some factual basis and understanding of what they were protesting for or against.”

DIRECTLY AFTER THE OCTOBER 2023 ATTACK and the start of the war, studies found, many Jews drew closer to one another and Judaism in what the Jewish Federations of North America called “the Surge.” The same was true at Princeton. The campus was largely empty on Oct. 7 because of fall break, but once students returned, Jewish student groups saw higher turnout and hosted more events in the months that followed.

Rabbi Gil Steinlauf '91, Jewish chaplain and executive director of the CJL, said Oct. 7 and the aftermath “underscored just how important a strong Jewish community is” for many. Since 2021, Jewish students have also reported an increased sense of belonging to the campus community, according to University surveys.

The student group B'Artzeinu was created as a direct result of Oct. 7 and describes itself as “Princeton's premier Zionist club,” focused on pro-Israel advocacy and education. The group drew as many as 150 attendees at some events, but its president, Perry Wolf '28, says turnout was smaller this past spring, in part because the group hosted fewer events and featured less-well-known guest speakers. She also believes the decline may reflect the amount of time that has passed since Oct. 7.

Some Jewish student groups have shifted their focus since 2023 and 2024. The Alliance of Jewish Progressives (AJP), which formed in 2014, stepped away from “the political side of things,” although Ducorsky, a former co-leader, says that was not the result of a formal decision but rather a response to what students said they wanted.

“I think [members] just wanted more text study, more cultural events,” Ducorsky says. “In general, there's the idea that there's not as much of a need for protests or these very strong political voices.”

Jordan Green '29 is co-president of Tigers for Israel, formerly the Princeton Israel Public Affairs Committee, and says the group was less active last year. This summer, she wrote a new club constitution focused on education and nonpartisan advocacy, rather than counterprotesting, which had previously been one of the group's primary activities.

Green served in the Israel Defense Forces for nearly three years before coming to Princeton. She was working at the University's pre-orientation program for transfer and veteran



KEEP TALKING

From left, Chabad chaplain Rabbi Eitan Webb, Zachary Dorff '25, and Gitty Webb, Chabad program director, at a protest in October 2023.

students when she spoke with PAW and says she received many questions from student veterans who learned about her mandatory service.

“I'm happy to discuss it as long as the dialogue is civil and polite, because I'm not about to get into a fight with someone,” she says. “That's just unnecessary, disrespectful, and I think goes against everything Princeton stands for.”

The Jewish alumni community has seen a similar increase in dialogue and participation since Oct. 7.

Steinlauf says “the climate after Oct. 7 contributed to the desire among Jewish alumni for a stronger and more organized sense of community.” He says those deepened bonds “are still very much present today.”

“I've never been more connected to Princeton Jewry, if you will, than I have in this period since Oct. 7,” says Ilya Shapiro '99, director of constitutional studies at the Manhattan Institute, a conservative think tank.

One major avenue of connection is the WhatsApp groups run by Rabbi Eitan Webb, Jewish chaplain and co-founder of the Chabad House. As opposed to the pluralistic CJL, which falls under the Hillel International umbrella and has roots on campus dating to 1947, Chabad was established at Princeton in 2002 and is part of the Chabad-Lubavitch wing, a Hasidic movement within Orthodox Judaism.

In the days after Oct. 7, Webb and his wife, Gitty, Chabad's program director, were walking along a beach in Florida when they agreed they had to do something. They decided to expand a group chat they had created for around 30 alumni who lived in Israel to include anyone interested. Within a day, the group Princetonians for Israel had about 350 members; at its peak, it had around 800. The chat now has about 600 members and generates

EDITOR'S NOTE

Learn more about how we reported this package and PAW's editorial policies by scanning the QR code.



roughly 20 to 30 posts a day, according to Webb.

The original purpose of the chat was to share information, but Webb says people soon started sharing needs and offering resources. Michael Bayme '85 says that his sons in the Israeli army were short on materials and received offers of help from many "very generous" alumni.

Others who were newly embracing or deepening their relationship with Judaism had basic questions about Israel. Then came the political opinions. Soon, the volume of posts became impossible to keep up with.

Webb says he's "not a big moderator guy," but some people "can hog the microphone, and you have to figure out how to operate it in a way that people are able to hear everybody." At times, he temporarily shut down the chat. Eventually, he instituted a strict three-posts-per-day limit per person and introduced sub-chats, with groups for advocacy, philanthropy, understanding the war, news, and other topics.

Sometimes when the chatter gets loud — less of a problem these days — Webb posts about a Jewish holiday or value to help re-center the conversation.

EMANUELLE SIPPY '25 SAYS TENSION WITHIN THE Princeton Jewish community has also crossed lines. A former president of AJP, she was a vocal participant in the pro-Palestinian protests on campus in 2023 and 2024. Sippy says she was grieving after Oct. 7 but felt alienated when the CJL and Chabad put up Israeli flags, which she viewed as a sign of support for Israel's military action in Gaza.

After participating in pro-Palestinian protests, she says, she received hate mail, including "one email in particular that stands out to me to this day — from a person who identified



'URGENT' HELP

Emanuelle Sippy '25, shown in a village in the West Bank in 2025, holds the son of Awdah Hathaleen, a Palestinian activist who was killed by an Israeli settler in 2025.

"There are periods where there are bombs falling [near her in Israel], there are sirens, and we're like, 'Oh my God, I'm so glad I'm not teaching in America right now.'"



— CARRA GLATT '09, senior lecturer of English at Bar-Ilan University in Ramat Gan, Israel

themselves as a parent of a CJL student, my peer, saying that I should not be allowed in the CJL."

She says she felt uncomfortable and unwelcome at the CJL, but as a practicing Jew, she continued to attend so she could pray and participate in services. She says she wasn't the only one to feel this way, and that some people stepped back from Jewish communities on campus as a result.

Sippy felt more at home in interfaith spaces, like the Religious Life Council, which she co-convoked one year. "I think that there's not a ton of interfaith stuff happening on Princeton's campus, but where it is happening, in my view, it's with quite a bit of depth," she says.

These spaces tend to move at a slower pace, according to Sippy. "We spent days listening to each other, sitting in silence, learning about each other. There was not a posture of, like, 'Now I'm going to speak for the Jewish people,' but a posture of, like, 'Hi, my name's Emanuelle, and this is my story.'"

Sippy spent the past year primarily in the West Bank working with nongovernmental organizations such as Solidarity of Nations, which forms partnerships between Palestinians and Israelis, and remains as passionate as ever. She tells PAW she agreed to an interview primarily to try to bring attention to the "urgent and pressing" and "worsening and worsening" situation in Gaza and the West Bank.

Carra Glatt '09 says she doesn't feel as welcome at Princeton or in higher education in America since Oct. 7. A senior lecturer of English at Bar-Ilan University who moved to Israel nine years ago, she says that she and some of her Jewish American expat colleagues have been so discouraged by pro-Palestinian activism across American college campuses over the past few years that "there are periods where there are bombs falling [near her in Israel], there are sirens, and we're like, 'Oh my God, I'm so glad I'm not teaching in America right now,'" she says.

Glatt says she has directed her philanthropy to Princeton's Jewish life programs rather than Annual Giving since being disappointed by the University's response to pro-Palestinian protests.

On the other hand, Jake Brzowsky '21, a manager of community research at the United Jewish Appeal-Federation of New York who spoke to PAW in a personal capacity, says that "Princeton's administration does strongly support the Jewish community on campus" while also balancing competing interests.

Tensions flared again this year when it was revealed that the spring 2026 course catalog included a gender and sexuality studies and anthropology class by visiting professor Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian, a feminist scholar who studies Palestine, called Gender, Reproduction, and Genocide, "with a central

focus on the ongoing genocide in Gaza.”

Dror Futter ’86, senior presidential counsel at Touro University, a private Jewish institution in New York, says Princeton moved beyond academic inquiry in offering the course. “If Princeton had had a course saying, ‘Did Israel commit genocide in Gaza?’ to be honest, I would not have been thrilled, right? But I understand why that falls within the rubric of academic freedom. This course took [genocide] as an established fact.”

THE ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH PRINCETON ALUMNI (AJPA) was in the works before Oct. 7, with planning meetings held over Zoom after Alumni Day in February 2023. But according to the AJPA website, the attack

“was a wake-up call for many of us about the importance of deepening our ties within the worldwide Jewish community, celebrating our Judaism together, and sharing this light with the world around us.”

AJPA officially launched in May 2024, and the first AJPA Class Notes column in the January 2025 issue of PAW reported that “the AJPA community has already grown to almost 700 strong.” AJPA President Jason Gold ’81 says there are now about 1,000 people on the mailing list.

According to Gold, there was initially friction over whether the group would be political in nature or focused solely on community-building. Some left the group over the issue, but those who remained reached a consensus: “We don’t

FOSTERING PRINCETON’S MUSLIM COMMUNITY

ONE OF ABDULLAH RIZVI ’27’S FAVORITE traditions at Princeton is the Solidarity Iftar, co-hosted by the Muslim Students Association (MSA) and Alliance of Jewish Progressives (AJP), which combines a Shabbat dinner and a Ramadan iftar. “Especially post Oct. 7 ... I’ve made it a goal for my work to try to bridge gaps,” he says.

Some students in the MSA were interested in protesting during 2023 and 2024, according to Rizvi, a former MSA board member, but they did not represent the majority. More recently, “there isn’t a whole lot of conversation around it anymore,” he says.

Rizvi, who is now co-president of the student group Muslim Advocates for Social Justice and Individual Dignity and an enthusiastic participant in interfaith circles, says the MSA includes “people from all over the place.”

To learn about how Oct. 7 has impacted Princeton’s Muslim community, PAW reached out to the University’s assistant dean for Muslim life; faculty members who specialize in the Middle East and/or Islam and/or identify as Muslim, including Amaney Jamal, the dean of the School of Public and International Affairs; Muslim alumni; and student groups. Most did not respond or declined to comment.

The Class of 2026 included 2.6% Muslim students, compared with 9.2% Jewish students, according to the *Daily Princetonian*’s Senior Survey. Perhaps as a result, Muslim students have fewer dedicated spaces to gather on campus than their Jewish peers. Mohamed El-Dirany ’18 *19 adds that he believes the Muslim community also has fewer resources.

El-Dirany, who led the student group Princeton Committee on Palestine and served as vice president for the Arab Society, made clear when speaking with PAW that while “many Muslims might be sympathetic to Palestinians,” the two are not one and the same.

“Many Palestinians are Muslim. Palestine is in the Middle East as a mostly Muslim whatever you want to call it —

nation, territory, whatever — but that does not mean that Palestine itself or Palestinians are a monolith or in some way representative of Muslims or vice versa,” he says.

While some Muslim alumni and students are working to strengthen Princeton’s Muslim community after Oct. 7, they are also facing what El-Dirany says is “the worst kind

of racism that I’ve ever seen in my personal lifetime” since 9/11. Increased government scrutiny over the past few years has “brought about a level of fear and repression among not just Muslims, but primarily over Arabs, over Palestinians, over anyone who espouses pro-Palestinian views.”

Against that backdrop, Princeton’s newest alumni affinity group, the Princeton University Muslim Alumni Association (PUMAA), launched in September 2025.

El-Dirany, a board member, says it is focused on “consolidating Muslim alumni together and focusing on getting that community really strong,” and

may eventually include students. PUMAA’s president, Nabil Shaikh ’17 *21, declined to speak with PAW.

In its first year, the organization hosted regional Ramadan iftars and co-sponsored a Muslim life reception at Reunions, “bringing together more than 200 Muslim alumni through our inaugural events,” according to PUMAA’s first Class Notes column in PAW’s July/August 2026 issue.

Muskan Effendi ’24 says that at a PUMAA iftar she attended, politics didn’t really come up, as they “were just so hungry. It was just a place for us to celebrate community and get together and share our struggles with being hungry.”

Princeton’s Department of Near Eastern Studies and Institute for International and Regional Studies launched a Palestinian Studies Colloquium in the fall of 2024, featuring speakers on the history, culture, politics, and society in historic Palestine as well as in the Palestinian diaspora, which the site says “has become more urgent than ever given the recent developments.” ■



MOHAMED EL-DIRANY ’18 *19

promote a specific perspective on [the war] or advocate a specific viewpoint because we represent an extremely diverse constituency, diverse along many different lines” of politics and viewpoints, Gold says.

Others have ended arguments with Gold, but not often: “One of the amazing things about the Princeton community is that I have conversations all the time, real conversations with people with whom I disagree, and rarely does somebody say, ‘Well, that’s your opinion,’ and walk away.”

Still, Sippy says she has no interest in joining the AJPA: “The same people who send me hate mail are going to hand me a glass of wine at an alumni event.”

As an example of Princeton’s commitment to difficult conversations, Gold points to the Affinity Roundtable, a monthly meeting of the presidents of all alumni affinity groups. “Stuff gets revealed and stuff gets hashed out, but mostly it’s about supporting one another to be better affinity groups,” he says.

JEREMY BEN-AMI ’84 HAS EXPERIENCED HOW HEATED conversations can get outside the Princeton bubble in his role as founder and president of J Street, a pro-Israel, pro-peace advocacy and lobby group.

He has been engaged in Jewish issues for decades. He knew several people who were killed on and after Oct. 7. He visited the site of the music festival in Israel that was attacked that day, where the children of some of his friends were killed, and found it “so deeply, deeply moving and so horrible.”

Ben-Ami has been critical of Israel and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, including calling earlier this year for an end to U.S. military aid to Israel. Israeli ambassador to the U.S. Yechiel Leiter responded by calling J Street a “cancer within the Jewish community.” More than 500 rabbis and other Jewish leaders signed a letter condemning Leiter’s remarks.

“Israel’s representatives should embrace disagreement within our community and recognize that dissent and debate are integral to Jewish tradition,” Ben-Ami says.

He adds: “Whether it is internal to J Street or it’s internal to the Jewish community or it is in the context of American politics, we believe that it is really important to engage with the people one disagrees with.”

He says he has been happy to hear from Jewish Princeton students that despite the contentiousness of the issue, “they don’t go to college to be made comfortable.”

Part of J Street’s goal is to “help both sides to realize that we need to work toward sort of a win-win end of this conflict where both peoples get what they want,” says Ben-Ami.

Halfway across the globe, in Israel, Yadin Kaufmann ’80 recently started an English-language podcast, *Unlikely Partners*, to initiate conversations among those who are seemingly on opposing sides. Each episode highlights cooperation among “Israelis and Palestinians who are working together ... to build a better future,” according to Kaufmann.

Kaufmann has been passionate about this work for years. In 2014, he started the Palestinian Internship Program, which gives Palestinian college graduates opportunities to work in Israel, which has a stronger economy. The program continues today.



STREET TALK

J Street president Jeremy Ben-Ami ’84, in his Washington, D.C., office, seeks to “engage with the people one disagrees with.”

“If we want things to be different and we want to prevent future Oct. 7s, we have to try to do things differently, and we have to try to work together and live together,” he says.

STILL, THE WAR GOES ON, AND THINGS ARE FAR from settled in either the Middle East or the U.S.

Princeton, meanwhile, has not become entangled in the federal government’s battles with other universities over allegations of antisemitism. In 2025, Columbia settled with the federal government for \$221 million — \$200 million to the government, and \$21 million to resolve allegations of discrimination against Jewish employees. In August, a federal judge dismissed the Trump administration’s lawsuit accusing Harvard of failing to protect Jewish and Israeli students from harassment. Also, a whistleblower filed a complaint alleging that federal antisemitism investigations of the Ivy League had been predetermined.

At Princeton, at least for now, tensions in and outside of the Jewish community have cooled. Webb says stressors haven’t gone away, “but there’s nothing to itch right now.” And not all Jews care about the war or follow it closely. To some degree, the world’s attention has moved to the Iran war and other geopolitical events, though with Israel’s next election on Oct. 27, the conversation may shift again.

No matter what comes next, Princeton’s Jewish community will attempt to navigate it together. Gold, the AJPA president, says, “Every single person, no matter what their political viewpoint is, is Jewish, is just as Jewish as anyone else. ... We really have to value every single member of not just our organization, but our community.” ■

JULIE BONETTE is PAW’s writer/assistant editor and a Unitarian Universalist.



A Taste for Connection

For Katy Andersen Keating '08, wine is about more than what's in the glass

BY MARK F. BERNSTEIN '83

When Katy Andersen Keating '08 wants a glass of wine, her preferred grape these days is a Nebbiolo. Perhaps a Barolo from G.D. Vajra, which she discovered when she lived in the Piedmont region of Italy shortly after she graduated. She's still early in her exploration of more complex red Burgundies from France, she says, "but I'm loving it so far." She has a lot of options. Keating is the managing director of Flint Wines, a London-based wine importer.

Wine drinkers' palates age just like the wines they drink. At least Keating's has. Her preferences, she admits, went "from the full, in-your-face [wines] where, when you taste it, you're hit with this wave of whatever the grape is telling you" such as a denser Chardonnay or a bolder Bordeaux from the early to mid-2000s. Now she favors wines that are "much more toned down in some of those elements. There's a lot more complexity and an acidity present."

In May 2025, Flint Wines hosted its first-ever tasting portfolio at London's Royal Opera House. Under the iron and glass atrium of Paul Hamlyn Hall, 129 vintners from around the world showed off nearly 500 wines. French and Italian vineyards predominated, but there were Cabernet Sauvignons from the United States, Malbecs from Argentina, Shirazes from Australia, Riojas from Spain, Rieslings from Austria, and Ports from Portugal, among scores of other selections. There were even sparkling wines from ... Great Britain. Thanks in part to climate change, good grapes can now be grown there. The legendary French Champagne maker Taittinger, in fact, began planting vines in Kent, along the English Channel, in 2017.

Not only does Keating have access to a wide variety of excellent wines through her work, she also happens to live in one of the best places to find them. According to a 2025 report by the high-end real estate consultancy Knight Frank, London now has more restaurants serving wines from the top 250 vineyards than any other city. As *The Times* (U.K.) crowed last year, "Move over Paris, London is now the wine capital of the world."

Keating came to her interest in wine through her interest in food. She is a third-generation farmer. But first, there were the sheep.

She grew up on an organic farm outside Philadelphia where her mother, Elizabeth, and father, Bill Andersen '81, raised sheep as well as cattle and chickens. Broadwater Farm soon expanded to

ADOBE



SET 'EM UP

Having grown up in Pennsylvania and now working in London as a wine importer, Katy Andersen Keating '08 says the differences in wine culture between the U.S. and Europe are noticeable.

vegetables, fruits, herbs, and an heirloom apple orchard. “From a young age,” Keating says, “we were thinking about what goes into your body.”

That interest carried over to Princeton, where she majored in French and Italian with a certificate in environmental studies. Keating founded the Princeton chapter of the Slow Food movement after the movement’s founder, Carlo Petrini, spoke on campus. As PAW described it in 2008, the Slow Food movement stresses “food that tastes delicious, is produced in environmentally and socially responsible ways, and which does not harm human health or animal welfare.” She also helped found the University farmer’s market, one of the first student-run campus farmer’s market in the country. Keating’s *Nassau Herald* page concludes, “Wine and laughter, what’s not to love?”

Like most undergraduates, Keating came to college with little appreciation for wine, but she began to acquire it during vacations to northern Italy with her parents. Wine there was a part of daily life. “I was starting to get a sense that there’s more complexity to wine than just something to get drunk,” she laughs. The first wine she recalls liking — for its aroma — was Moscato d’Asti, a sparkling white from the Piedmont region. “It’s a sweet wine,” Keating notes, “but it has an incredible perfume to the nose.”

Locally, she found a mentor in Laurent Chapuis, owner of the Princeton Corkscrew Wine Shop. Her parents first took her into the shop when they would visit, and Keating returned as soon as she turned 21, always asking questions.

“She understood the farming side of [wine making] and was very open-minded and eager to learn,” Chapuis recalls. The two have remained close. When Keating and her husband, Jared Keating ’05, were married in 2018, they bought the wine for their reception from Chapuis.

Keating’s work establishing the Princeton farmer’s market led her to apply to Harvard Business School. However, she deferred her acceptance when she won a Fulbright scholarship to study artisanal cheese-making at the University of Gastronomic Sciences in Pollenzo, Italy. Not coincidentally, the school was founded by Petrini, and its educational philosophy remains grounded in the Slow Food movement.

More than anything else, Keating says, wine is about connections, and as evidence she tells a Princeton story. While on her Fulbright, she remained in touch with Rajiv Ayyangar ’09, who had started a campus wine club. During a visit to the Princeton Corkscrew, Ayyangar met a young Piedmont winemaker, Giuseppe Vajra, and recommended that Keating visit him. Without a car, Keating persuaded her study-abroad roommate, Sophie de Gier, to drive her there. Sophie and Vajra, Keating notes proudly, have now been married for 18 years.

After a summer internship at Amazon Fresh, Amazon’s then-fledgling online food delivery business, Keating earned her MBA from Harvard in 2011. “By that time, I was totally hooked on wines,” she says, “but I didn’t see it as a career path.” Still she remained on the outskirts of that path, joining a New York startup called Lot18, where she worked in the food division of an online wine merchant. The following year, she moved to London to become director of service development for a hospitality company. However, she continued to study wine in her spare time, eventually earning a diploma from the Wine and Spirit Education Trust, a global group based in the U.K.



WINE TIME

One of Keating’s new projects as managing director of Flint Wines was the inaugural 2025 wine tasting at London’s Royal Opera House. The next event is scheduled for March 6.

Just as she was finishing that degree, a friend notified her that Lay & Wheeler, one of the oldest wine merchants in the U.K., was hiring. Keating joined them as a customer director in January 2016 and soon became managing director, remaining with the company for nearly almost eight years and nearly tripling its revenues, from \$13 million to \$38 million. “I finally found my path into the wine world,” she laughs. “It just took me five years after graduate school to get there.”

Flint Wines, a competitor of Lay & Wheeler, was founded in 2006 as two related businesses, one selling wines to hotels, restaurants, bars, and wine shops and another selling exclusively to private clients. Keating joined Flint as managing director in November 2023 with the assignment of uniting those two divisions. The company had never had a true CEO before, and Keating said she filled the dual roles, as she puts it, of traditional corporate executive and “team mom,” hiring a chief financial officer, integrating Flint’s sales teams, renovating their offices, and rebuilding their website.

It is unique in the wine world for an importer to sell both to commercial and private clients, Keating says. Flint buys directly from more than 200 wineries around the world and then arranges distribution. Retail clients include department stores such as Selfridges and Harrods, specialty shops such as

JOSHUA TARN



Fortnum & Mason, big hotels such as Claridge's, as well as many of London's popular restaurants. Keating compares Flint Wines to an art gallery. They represent the artists — the winemakers — but also connect them with customers to make sure their wines find the right home, whether on a store shelf or in a private cellar.

Wine culture is different in the United States, Keating explains. European vineyards export as much as half of their production, while Americans export only about 16% because the domestic market is so strong. Wine clubs, which make up a significant part of the American wine business, are all but unknown overseas, where vineyards tend to be smaller, don't have marketing departments, and often don't offer tours.

The American palate for wine is also different. Keating describes it as "younger," which seems like a polite way of saying less sophisticated. "Americans tend to lean more on points and scores [in evaluating wine], because it's very straightforward to process," she observes. "Whereas, in England, I think you get a lot more tradition, where generations upon generations have refined their understanding of which wines they like."

The wine industry faces several challenges. In the U.S., wine exports dropped by more than a third last year as tariffs imposed by the Trump administration sparked a reciprocal trade war

with Canada, the largest market for U.S. vineyards. Another threat, climate change, may make it possible to grow champagne grapes in southern England, and wildfires in California also destroyed much of the 2020 crop.

Long-term, an even greater threat may be a simple lack of interest. According to a 2025 Gallup poll, the number of Americans who say they drink alcohol has reached a 90-year low, and alcohol consumption rates worldwide are even lower among Generation Z. Asked whether this concerns her, Keating cites the Romans. "Wine has been around for millennia," she counters. "It has outlived all its ups and downs."

Face it, unless one has grown up around wine, the seemingly infinite variety — red versus white versus rosé, dry versus sweet versus sparkling, fruity versus earthy versus robust — can be intimidating at first. Fortunately, Keating is a teacher as well as a lifelong learner, and some of her students can be found right in her own home. Her three young children aren't old enough yet to drink wine, of course, but they can still learn.

"I'm trying to be patient," she told the industry website WineLister.com in 2024. "They smell everything. Pinot versus Merlot. Chardonnay versus Riesling." They're even learning the differences between the finest stemware, which Flint also sells. "They tell me they're ready for Champagne," Keating added. "I've made a note."

For novices who might be embarrassed to admit that they can't distinguish between varietals, Keating's advice is simple: Just dive in. Visit your local wine shop, pick a region, and go deep, sampling all the different types of wines that are grown there.

"Don't get overwhelmed by the fact that there are hundreds of different wine grapes," she cautions. Perhaps the easiest route to becoming at least an apprentice wine connoisseur, Keating suggests, is simply to ask the staff at your local store for their recommendations "and let them geek out for you."

Wines can also be enjoyed from a range of price points. Although Flint tends to sell more high-end wines, Keating says she also appreciates the less expensive, everyday bottles, the kind those in the industry call "pizza wine." Her preferences now, though, are driven less by price, less even by varietal, and more by connection.

"I will buy wines because I really like the people [who make it]," she explains. "Maybe I can see where they're headed but it's not quite there yet, and I'll still get it because I want to support them. Maybe they're into biodynamic agriculture or they're taking over from their family farm and doing things differently. Or maybe they're just really nice."

For Keating, one of the connections that makes wine drinking exceptional is right in Palmer Square. She has kept up her friendship with

Chapuis, stopping by the Princeton Corkscrew whenever she returns to campus. He might show her something interesting he has just gotten in. They might sample it as they catch up over a friendly glass.

"If she wants to retire and come back to Princeton and take over the shop," Chapuis adds with a laugh, "I will give it to her." ■

MARK F. BERNSTEIN '83 is PAW's senior writer.

WINE OPENERS

Are you a novice wine drinker? Scan the QR code for Katy Andersen Keating '08's recommendations on which wines to try.



FAMOUS FINGER

Starring Russell Crowe, A Beautiful Mind was filmed at Princeton in the spring of 2001 and won Best Picture the following year.



MEREDITH RUGANI '02



LIGHTS, CAMERA, PRINCETON

Twenty-five years after *A Beautiful Mind*,
Hollywood still loves Old Nassau

BY HARRISON BLACKMAN '17

ON MARCH 27, 2001, MEREDITH RUGANI '02, then a junior in East Asian studies and a hobby photographer, visited her neighbor's dorm room in 1901 Hall, bringing along her camera as well as a reporter for *The Trentonian*, who was on campus to cover a most unusual scene. Out the window they watched as Russell Crowe, only days removed from his Oscar win for Best Actor in *Gladiator*, walked through the courtyard with director Ron Howard as they prepared to shoot a scene for *A Beautiful Mind*, a biopic of Nobel laureate mathematician John Forbes Nash Jr. *50 based on Sylvia Nasar's 1998 book of the same name.

"I took Crowe and Howard's photo through the window as the two were talking," Rugani (née Moroney) tells PAW. "Crowe looked up, saw me, and gave me the finger right as I happened to be snapping a picture."

Rugani and Jeff Edelstein, *The Trentonian* reporter, ducked down. "Then my journalism instincts kicked in," Edelstein recalls, demanding to develop Rugani's film to see if she had captured the moment. Though Edelstein had taken his own picture with his own camera, his image only revealed Crowe's knuckle, partially unfurled — but Rugani's had Crowe's finger fully (and scandalously) extended.

"When we met back up that evening, the reporter gave me the *Trentonian*'s standard flat photo fee and told me the photo would run on the front page the next day whether I agreed or not," Rugani recalls.

The photo launched a tabloid frenzy. "The landline for our suite rang off the hook," Rugani says, as reporters from around the world sought her commentary on the finger-moment, adding that "heavily embellished, progressively wilder tales of the incident spread across campus," and that these tall tales incorrectly suggested her photograph had interrupted filming (she had not) and that she had leaned out the window (an exaggeration). Two days after the incident, *The Daily Princetonian*'s front page was ablaze with the headline: "A Beautiful Finger," with Rugani's photo, zoomed in, showing Crowe delivering the obscene gesture.

Twenty-five years after *A Beautiful Mind*, Lyn Pinezich, the location manager for the production, argues that Crowe, despite his incendiary reputation at the time, was actually "on his best behavior." During a shoot in a Princeton dorm room, she says, the star started pulling out the student resident's VHS tapes, "signing them [before] putting them back on the shelf." According to Pinezich's assistant location

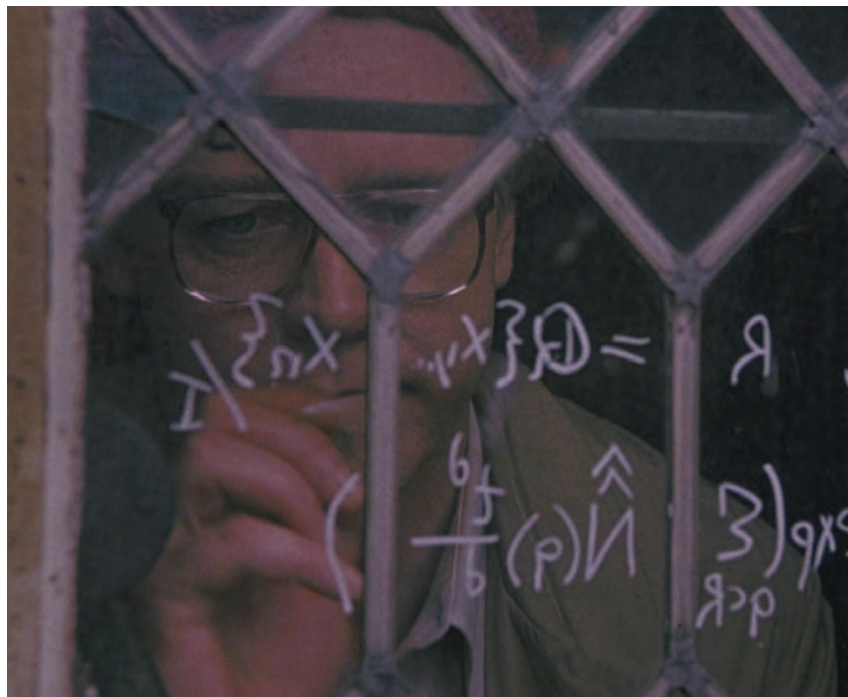
manager, Mike Kriaris, to take a break from the set, Crowe would fraternize with the Princeton town police because “he collects police badges” but otherwise mostly “kept to himself” to focus on the difficult role.

A Beautiful Mind went on to win four Academy Awards, including Best Picture, and has served as an enduring love letter to Princeton, with many of its scenes set in the Collegiate Gothic courtyards. But it’s far from the only major production to set Princeton in its sights or invoke Old Nassau to give a character an educated or privileged background.

ERIC HAYES ’19, WHO WROTE AND DIRECTED the short film *The Observer Effect* on campus while a student, attests to the silver screen’s enduring fascination with the University. “Some of the greatest thinkers of the 20th century have all walked those halls,” Hayes says. “The ghosts in the corridors, so to speak, kind of echo that type of thinking.”

Several Hollywood films have depicted such great thinkers using Princeton landscapes, whether Richard Feynman *42 (Matthew Broderick) in *Infinity* or Walter Matthau’s comic take on Albert Einstein in the 1994 Meg Ryan rom-com *I.Q.* When it came time to shoot a handful of scenes on campus and at the Institute for Advanced Study for *Oppenheimer* (2023), director Christopher Nolan knew the locations he wanted to shoot, partly because he had given the Class Day speech in 2015, when he confirmed that his version of Batman attended (but dropped out of) Princeton. “[Nolan] knew what he wanted,” says Patty Carey, the location manager for the production in New Jersey and New York who had previously worked in the same capacity on *A Beautiful Mind*. “Being so familiar with Princeton, he is a stickler for wanting things that are authentic, spectacular, and real.”

Sometimes Princeton lends credence to productions that deal with the unreal, such as the Michael Bay-directed blockbuster *Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen* (2009), in which Shia LaBeouf’s character goes to college and has an alien-robot-caused



RUSSELL CROWE AS JOHN FORBES NASH JR. *50.

meltdown in McCosh 50 during a lecture. “Everywhere we went, we were looking for something that really spoke to the scale of the storyline,” says Matt Wersinger, a location manager for the project, referring to the production’s globetrotting shoots, which traversed the deserts of Jordan to the Bethlehem Steel factory in Pennsylvania. “Princeton stood out as not only a picturesque location that helped us tell the beginning of the story, but something that really fit into the franchise in a way that was really positive.”

Not all of the Princeton-set scenes in *Transformers* were flattering to the University, however. LaBeouf’s character hooks up with a Decepticon robot villain posing as a coed, part of a fraternity house sequence shot at the University of Pennsylvania. In another scene, the hero’s mother mistakenly buys pot brownies near the University Chapel and Firestone Library.

Despite the college hijinks depicted in *Transformers*,

NOTABLE PRINCETONIANS IN FILM AND TV

FICTIONAL CHARACTERS

- **Osborne Cox:** In *Burn After Reading* (2008), John Malkovich’s forcibly retired CIA agent (and Princeton grad) seeks the return of his memoir manuscript, at any cost.
- **Jack Donaghy:** Alec Baldwin’s pompous TV executive in *30 Rock* (2006–2013) attended Old Nassau on a “handsomeness scholarship.”
- **Mary Jensen:** In *There’s Something About Mary* (1998), Cameron Diaz’s beguiling orthopedic surgeon graduated from Princeton.

- **Doogie Howser, M.D.:** Neil Patrick Harris’ prodigy teenage doctor on the popular sitcom (1989–1993) is supposedly an alum, having graduated Princeton in 1983 at the age of 10.
- **Julia Kelly:** Nicole Kidman played this nuclear weapons expert to the White House with a Princeton pedigree in *The Peacemaker* (1997).
- **Jon Osterman** Before he was the godlike superhero Dr. Manhattan, the *Watchmen* (2009) character (played by Billy Crudup) was a Princeton Ph.D. in physics.

PORTRAYALS (with film)

- **Kurt Gödel** (James Urbaniak), *Oppenheimer*
- **Alan Turing *38** (Benedict Cumberbatch), *The Imitation Game*
- **John Forbes Nash *50** (Russell Crowe), *A Beautiful Mind*
- **Richard Feynman *42** (Matthew Broderick), *Infinity*
- **Albert Einstein** (Walter Matthau), *I.Q.*
- **Aaron Burr 1772** (David Niven), *Magnificent Doll*
- **Woodrow Wilson 1879** (Alexander Knox), *Wilson*



A SCENE FROM *OPPENHEIMER* AT EAST PYNE.

Wersinger says the shoot went splendidly. “When it’s Michael Bay calling, I think people respect the legacy of what he’s done with great action films, and they are open to a discussion of getting it done,” Wersinger says.

Other unflattering University portrayals abound. In *Admission* (2013), Tina Fey’s admissions official fraudulently changes her long-lost son’s application decision to grant him admission; when she’s found out, she’s forced to resign. In *The Talented Mr. Ripley* (1999), Matt Damon’s titular con artist starts his murderous journey by borrowing a Princeton sweater and being mistaken for an alumnus. In *Risky Business* (1983), Tom Cruise’s Joel Goodson impresses his Princeton interviewer by turning his family home into a brothel. And in *Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle* (2004), the stoner duo stops at Princeton to score marijuana on their errant quest to the eponymous burger joint, but that production didn’t need Princeton’s permission, as those scenes were shot at the University of Toronto.

SO WHAT DOES IT TAKE FOR HOLLYWOOD productions to be allowed on campus? “Requests to film movies and similar projects on the Princeton campus are considered on a case-by-case basis,” says University spokesperson Michael Hotchkiss. “Occasionally, we will consider a project if it has a direct connection to Princeton University’s history or its teaching and research mission and does not disrupt academic or research activities.”

If Princeton is choosy, the institution’s long-running intersection with Hollywood has still produced some deep, unusual cuts. In Jonathan Demme’s 1979 thriller *Last Embrace*, Roy Scheider plays a secret agent partnering with a predictably attractive Princeton graduate student — not to mention a scene-stealing “rabbi-detective” — to solve a series of murders. He gets in a chase through Firestone Library with a sinister classics scholar and a shootout set in the Graduate College’s Cleveland Tower, in which bullets clang off the carillon bells.

In some cases, Princeton’s campus has doubled for other sites. In James Franco’s 2014 directorial take on William Faulkner’s *The Sound and the Fury*, the Lake Carnegie bridge on Washington Road stood in for the Harvard location of Quentin Compson’s suicide on the Charles River in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Occasionally, fictional Princeton institutions crop up in film and TV. Many of *The Simpsons* writers, being veterans

of the *Harvard Lampoon*, frequently assign their characters Princeton pedigrees in derogatory fashion. A character named Lionel Hutz, voiced by Phil Hartman, is said to hold a degree from Princeton Law School — which of course does not exist. Meanwhile, the characters of Snake Jailbird and Cecil Terwilliger are Princeton grads; the latter’s brother Sideshow Bob is known for calling Princeton a “clown college.”

If *The Simpsons* often puts Princeton in its crosshairs, the long-running medical drama *House M.D.* celebrated the campus by taking place in the fictitious “Princeton-Plainsboro Teaching Hospital,” with Frist Campus Center forming the apparent exterior. “To me, Princeton-Plainsboro has always been an enchanted forest, where patients come to be cured of allegorical complaints,” the show’s star Hugh Laurie wrote in a 2010 companion book to the show. “Of course, any drama must obey the laws of its own universe — the characters can’t fly or travel through time — and the show achieves as much verisimilitude as it can afford with the time and money available.”

Carey credits the University’s willingness to work with the *Oppenheimer* and *A Beautiful Mind* productions. “The goal is not to disrupt campus life,” she says, “but at the same time



A SCENE FROM *TRANSFORMERS: REVENGE OF THE FALLEN* AT MCCOSH 50.

making sure that the director was getting the shots that he wants.” She cited Eric Hamblin of University Services as a key member of the staff who interfaced with both productions. Hamblin, who retired in April after 38 years at the University, declined PAW’s request for comment.

According to Pinezich, one of the most important components of shooting *A Beautiful Mind* was depicting historically accurate architecture and incorporating period cars into the shots. “You park a period car in the corner of the frame, and it just sells the period,” Pinezich says. “It’s very forgiving when you’re interrupting people’s traffic flow with period cars. Everybody loves to see these old cars.”

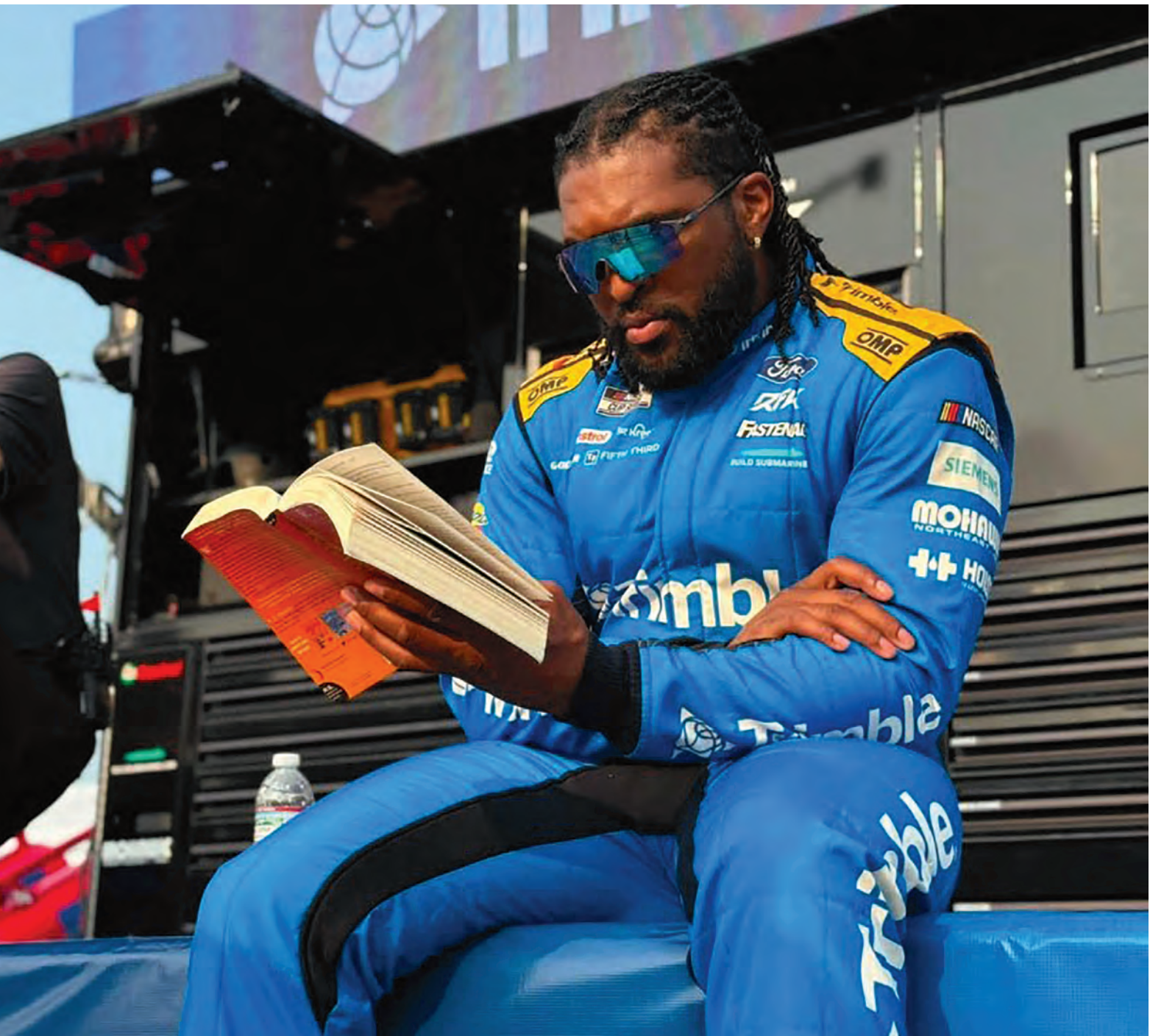
As for photographing Crowe’s infamous gesture, Rugani says that the photo incident left a long trail in her life, serving “as a funny story for cocktail parties” and popping up in unexpected settings: Once a law firm recruiter even tested her Japanese fluency “by greeting me with a flurry of questions about Crowe in Japanese.” In the days after she took the photo, however, Rugani used her notoriety for a practical purpose: She used her not-inconsiderable photo fees to buy a new computer. **P**

HARRISON BLACKMAN ’17 is a journalist and writer based in Los Angeles.



PRINCETONIANS

ALUMNI STORIES AND PERSPECTIVES



Shifting Skills

After graduating from Princeton, Sam Wright '22 was hoping to continue his football career in the NFL. That was until NASCAR saw his football tapes and reached out. Wright is now a jackman for RFK Racing's No. 60 team, driven by Ryan Preece. The job requires him to carry a roughly 25-pound hydraulic jack and use it to lift a car weighing more than 3,000 pounds in rapid time. "You have to perform in a matter of seconds, your mistakes are visible, there's constant 'noise' around you, and there are a lot of people depending on you," he says. "Princeton taught me how to operate under pressure without needing everything around me to feel comfortable or in order first." Wright is pictured here enjoying a book, his favorite pastime between pit stops.

COURTESY OF SAM WRIGHT '22



CAREERS INTERRUPTED

When Cancer Puts Young Lives on Hold

BY NGAN CHIEM '23

CHRISTINA BADARACCO '12 recalls sitting in a waiting room surrounded by men and women much older than her, retirees in their 70s who reminded her of her parents. She was in her late 20s and had taken the day off work to receive cancer treatment.

"I just remember feeling like I stood out like a sore thumb," she says.

Badaracco, who had the common skin cancer called basal cell carcinoma, underwent successful outpatient surgery and was able to return to work the next day.

Cancer diagnoses are shocking at any age, but more young people are receiving the news before the age of 50. A 2023 study published in *BMJ Oncology* found the rate of cancer cases for individuals between 14 and 49 increased 79% between 1990 and 2019, and breast,



CHRISTINA BADARACCO '12

tracheal, lung, stomach, and colorectal cancers had the highest mortality rates. Cancer is one of the leading causes of death and long-term health

complications for individuals 15 to 39, according to a 2022 study published in *The Lancet Oncology*.

By the end of 2026, the National Cancer Institute estimates there will be around 88,000 new cases of cancer among those ages 15 to 39.

Tigers are no exception, and some have openly shared their experiences. In her 2021 book *Between Two Kingdoms: A Memoir of Life Interrupted*, Emmy Award-winning writer Suleika Jaouad '10 unpacked cancer's effects on her life as a young woman. More recently, Christopher Beha '02 published *Why I Am Not an Atheist: The Confessions of a Skeptical Believer*, which touches on his diagnosis with the blood cancer Hodgkin's lymphoma during his senior year at Princeton.

Like Jaouad and Beha, other young alumni who receive cancer diagnoses say the disruptions to their lives and careers have left them feeling like they've fallen behind.

Melody Sánchez-Luca '16 was in her early 30s when she met up with a friend from Princeton who happened to work in medicine. The friend noticed a new mole on her face and recommended she get it checked out. When it was confirmed to be melanoma, one of the deadliest forms of skin cancer when not caught early, the doctors immediately scheduled her for a procedure the next day.

"It felt like they basically took a cookie-sized chunk of my face away and then closed it up again," Sánchez-Luca says.

The surgery took an immense toll on her body, and it took months to recover.

"My wife, I'm so grateful for her," Sánchez-Luca says. "She needed to help me with so much of the basic activities of daily living."

Before her cancer diagnosis, Sánchez-Luca worked as the program director for the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at Emory University and was interviewing for new roles. Then the cancer hit, and she was forced to pause her search.

Since her recovery, Sánchez-Luca says it has been challenging to get interviews, partly due to the gap in her résumé left by the cancer treatment.



Explaining résumé gaps is a common struggle for cancer survivors, according to the nonprofit Cancer and Careers. While addressing the gap is a major concern for job seekers, the organization reminds individuals that they are not required by law to disclose their cancer, recommending instead that they lead with their career skills.

Sánchez-Luca says that if nothing else, having cancer helped clarify for her the kind of impact she wants to have in the world. She says she hopes to return to higher education administration.

“The most devastating aspect of this whole [cancer] process is the chasm between what I feel I’m capable of doing and how I want to contribute to the world, and not getting to do it,” Sánchez-Luca says.

Three years ago, Rachel Marek ’17, a structural engineer in New York, had been on a promotion track when she was diagnosed with Hodgkin’s lymphoma. For the next six months, she received 12 rounds of chemotherapy and immunotherapy every other week and continued working in a reduced capacity. Marek says it took a year after treatment for her to feel more recovered.

Even though her team was very supportive of her treatment, she says she felt frustrated with her professional progress.

“I had been going somewhere, and



SURPRISING SITUATION

Top: In 2023, Rachel Marek ’17, center, was diagnosed with Hodgkin’s lymphoma.

Her treatment and recovery took about two years. Above: Melody Sánchez-Luca ’16, right, and her wife, Jayna, at the Every Voice conference.

I felt like, career-wise, I’d hit a bit of a stall,” she says.

She did not get promoted that year but eventually did the following year. Still, she remembers being wary of her perception within the company.

“I had a colleague who, when I finished treatment, was like, ‘Maybe you need to take more time off, you still have all these appointments.’ And I was like, ‘Well, am I not doing a good job?’”

Despite protections in the Americans with Disabilities Act, cancer survivors

continue to experience workplace discrimination. These include employers’ failure to hire, dismissals, and insurance denial, according to the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

In addition to transitioning back to work, many young cancer survivors face challenges after treatment, says Chelsea Donahue, managing director of mission and strategy for Stupid Cancer, a nonprofit that supports young adults with cancer.

“When you’re in treatment, you’re fighting for your life. There’s a support team. You know what you’re doing, even though it’s awful,” Donahue says. “When you’re done, for most folks, there’s no roadmap.” She adds that survivors face challenges with “sex, dating, relationships, intimacy, [and] family building” after treatment.

When several of her friends got married last spring, Marek says she felt grief for the time she lost to cancer.

“I wasn’t actively dating or looking for a relationship because I was healing,” she says, but she can’t help wondering how her life would have turned out without the disruption.

Marek says finding a community of young adult cancer survivors online and in person has helped her process survivorship. A member of Stupid Cancer, Marek flew to Texas to attend the annual conference CancerCon and says the event was “a big game changer.”

Last year, the conference drew more than 300 young cancer survivors, caretakers, and healthcare providers and included workshops, survivor panels, and fun social programming.

This past summer, Marek says she had been thinking about her experience during the anniversary of her cancer diagnosis. While she’s far from grateful for the cancer, she is grateful for the opportunities and the lessons it gave her.

“I have a great group of friends. I’ve learned how to stand up for myself and advocate for myself,” she says. And when it comes to work, she’s learned to set boundaries. “Work’s not everything. Work needs to get done, but I also need to live my life.” **P**

INSPIRING PRINCETONIANS

Expanding Investing Opportunities for African Small Businesses

Nana Barwuah '26's nonprofit bridges the funding gap by connecting entrepreneurs with investors

BY TONYA RUSSELL

WHEN NANA BARWUAH '26 studied abroad in Ghana for her thesis, she wasn't planning to launch a nonprofit. But what she saw on the ground, a massive gap between African entrepreneurs and the capital they needed to grow, inspired her to start Afrovest, an organization she hopes will connect businesses across the continent with global investors and create new economic opportunities. In its first year, the nonprofit has surpassed its goal of securing \$100 million in investment opportunities for the next five years.

Africa is facing a \$331 billion financing gap for small and medium enterprises or businesses (SMEs), according to the International Finance Corporation. Afrovest, which launched this year, will host its first summit on Nov. 12 in Accra, Ghana, where 15 vetted SMEs across agriculture, fintech, artificial intelligence, logistics, and renewable

energy will pitch directly to a curated group of global investors from around the world.

While Barwuah, who studied politics at Princeton, was trying to nail down her thesis topic, she took note of Ghana's inconsistent lending practices. "I stumbled upon SME lending in Africa, and then my thesis adviser [John Londregan '88] told me that I needed to narrow down my idea," she says. "I was lucky enough that Princeton was able to pay for me to go to Ghana and be on the ground to do field research."

What she found was a glaring funding gap.

"Ninety percent of Ghana's economy is informal, so it's hard to grow your business there," she says. "I knew there had to be a solution, and that's when I thought of Afrovest."

In the short time she's spent building the organization, she's had to learn to

handle fundraising and the complexities of doing business across a continent made up of vastly different cultures and economies. It's also taught Barwuah how to deal with being turned down.

"In the beginning, rejections would hurt," she says. "But now I say, 'OK, next.' I think rejection helps you build thick skin, and I tell myself that they'll regret it when it's successful."

She's also had to learn to work in an environment where women remain underrepresented and there is no standard business practice across the continent. "I have to put that into perspective when

I'm entering into a lot of these meetings because the cultures are so different from America, and I've grown up here," she says.

Her Princeton education has

helped her take on those challenges while also providing institutional support for Afrovest. Princeton's Keller Center provided backing as she built the organization, while the University's Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination Africa Program Fellowship is helping Afrovest curate a policy conversation at the upcoming summit.

Now, Barwuah is thinking beyond Afrovest's first summit and its initial funding goals. The organization has already surpassed its \$100 million target of the aggregate capital from the 15 companies in its current fundraising rounds. Afrovest is building the investor pipeline, identifying potential matches, facilitating introductions, and supporting the companies as they work toward closing their respective rounds.

She adds that conversations are currently underway in various industries and locations, including businesses in Egypt and Nigeria. One company, for example, is pursuing a fundraising round of \$25 million. Afrovest has also helped make connections for businesses in renewable energy and healthcare technology that are working to expand into the hospital industry.

Long term, Barwuah hopes that funding businesses will ultimately create jobs and opportunities for young people, which is another of her passion projects. And she sees Afrovest eventually expanding beyond Africa to address funding challenges facing Black entrepreneurs in the United States and Europe.

For now, the focus is on getting African businesses in front of investors who might otherwise never have access to them, and proving that closing the funding gap can have effects far beyond the businesses themselves. **P**

NOMINATE OTHER INSPIRING ALUMNI.

This story is part of a series highlighting the stories of alumni doing inspiring work. To nominate others, please email your ideas to paw@princeton.edu.



COURTESY OF NANA BARWUAH '26



PRINCETON SUMMER THEATER

A Summer Experiment That Became a Tradition

Nearly six decades later, students continue to make art and find community

BY BIANCA GRACIE

NEARLY SIX DECADES AGO, Geoff Peterson '69 and two fellow Princeton students looked around the Hamilton Murray Theater and wondered why it should sit empty all summer.

Peterson had been working on a Theatre Intime production of *The Misanthrope* with Charles Bernstein '68 when Bernstein floated the idea of returning to Chicago to start a summer theater. But Peterson had another thought. "I said, 'Well, wait a minute. We're standing in this absolute gem of a little theater here, 200 seats. Why don't we do it here?'" he recalls.

Along with Jon Lorrain '69, the students persuaded the University to let them use the theater and build an ensemble. In 1968, they launched Summer Intime, which would eventually become Princeton Summer Theater. The inaugural

season proved successful enough that the University subsequently installed air conditioning in Hamilton Murray.

This Princeton tradition has passed from one generation to the next. But back then, that goal wasn't top of mind for the co-founders.

"I don't think we were thinking about long-lasting," Peterson says. "We were thinking about, 'Can we get through this summer?'" The University provided the building but no operating cash, he says, meaning the fledgling company had to raise money, sell tickets, and keep its finances afloat. Late at night, Peterson would pore over the books to see whether their experiment was actually working.

It did. Princeton Summer Theater remains a fixture, producing professional-caliber productions largely through the work of Princeton students and recent

RIISING STARS

From left, Kim Meyers '75, Winnie Holzman '76, and Susan Wolf '75 in Edward Albee's *The American Dream* at Theatre Intime, 1974.

graduates. From acting and directing to design, marketing, fundraising, and administration, participants take responsibility for virtually every aspect of mounting a season.

"There are a lot of places you can go around the country in the summer and be an actor or be a director," Peterson says, "but there are not that many where you could be a producer at that early an age or in that earlier part of your career."

Kim Myers '75 participated in three seasons of Summer Intime and helped administer the theater as executive director while also acting. Everybody did a little of everything, she recalls. If a poster was needed, someone in the company designed it. Flyers were physically hung around Princeton. Students chose the plays, handled marketing, monitored the finances, and even bought lumber and hung stage lights.

"One of the great things was we did it all ourselves," Myers says. "There was no University adviser. There was no one looking over our shoulder."

The experience became a training ground for her eventual career in television. Myers went on to work at WNET, the nonprofit parent company of New York's PBS station, and later in Los Angeles, developing projects, working with writers, and overseeing productions. Looking back, she points to Princeton.

"I've always said that everything I learned as a television producer, which is what I became, I learned at Summer Intime," Myers says. "Everything."

Mitchell Ivers '77 began at Intime as a box-office manager because, as he remembers it, nobody else wanted the job. Soon he became the executive producer, running the theater alongside Myers. The students enjoyed great artistic freedom and used it to stage experimental works alongside Shakespeare, classics, and contemporary plays. Ivers fondly



MUSICAL MAGIC

Geoff Rich '78 in *Loot* by Joe Orton in 1978. Rich earned a Tony Award as a producer for *Avenue Q* (Best Musical). Right, a *Summer Intime* season playbill from 1968.

remembers his thesis production of William Inge's *Picnic*: "Directing it gave me a sense of myself that I had never thought was part of me. That was such a big point in our theatrical lives."

His career eventually shifted from theater to publishing, and he spent decades working at Random House. The professions seemed different, but Ivers recognized the same impulse at the heart of both. "My role was enabling someone's artistic work to flourish," he says. "And that was definitely something that became part of me at Theater Intime and Summer Intime. Intime, in many ways, made me who I am today."

Winnie Holzman '76 remembers the theater's community as nearly idyllic. Long before writing the musical *Wicked* or creating television's *My So-Called Life*, Holzman spent her summers acting, singing in weekend cabarets, performing children's theater, and living alongside fellow company members.

"There was so much creativity to be part of," Holzman says. "It just reinforced for me how much I loved it and that this is where I wanted to spend my life. It's like, 'Yes, this is where I belong. This feels right.'"

For Holzman, the smallness of the Hamilton Murray Theater was part of its power. "You can feel it when people are

riveted, but also when people are deeply entertained, deeply involved, or having an emotional reaction of any sort," she says. "We knew we were doing something that was connecting with people. And there's no better feeling than that."

Lucy Shea '27, artistic director for the theater's 2026 season, and Executive Director Orion Lopez-Ramirez '26 called it an incubator and a lab. "You get to see your ideas come to life and you get to see them fail and sometimes you get to see them succeed," says Lopez-Ramirez. "There's no better teacher than experience." It is, he adds, "really a trial by fire."

That trial now involves balancing an institution's history with attracting contemporary audiences. The 2026 company has moved toward virtual ticketing and short-form digital content while maintaining its long-standing focus on producing accessible theater for the community.

One thing that's never changed is the friendships. Peterson, one of the founders, says some of his closest relationships date to that inaugural period, including a designer who remains his friend 58 years later — and another company member whom he married.

"There's an intense collaboration that happens in such a short period of time," he says. "It makes for a strong bond." ■

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THE CLASS OF 1949

ERNEST H. RUCKERT JR. '49

Ernie died Feb. 17, 2024, at his retirement community in Raleigh, N.C., at age 97.



He graduated from Westwood High School in New Jersey and served in the Army before starting at Princeton. At Princeton, he majored in the School of Public and International Affairs, was a member of the Chess Club and Quadrangle Club, and was an officer of the Pre-Law Society. He graduated from Harvard Law School in 1952 and briefly practiced in Newark, N.J., before entering private practice in Teaneck, N.J., specializing in estate and real estate law.

Ernie and his wife, Ginnie, raised their two sons in Bergen County, N.J., before moving to the Catskills for several years, and then retired to North Carolina in 1992. They became volunteers at children's homes, and Ernie, who enjoyed writing poetry, mentored children in writing their own poetry. Ernie and Ginnie would travel from North Carolina to French Camp Academy in Mississippi, where Ernie taught chess and hosted chess tournaments in addition to tutoring in academics and poetry writing. He and Ginnie were also active members of the congregation of Duke University Chapel.

Ginnie died in 2021. Ernie is survived by sons Ernest Ruckert III and Roger Ruckert '77; four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1951

BAYARD D. REA '51

Bart died Aug. 24, 2025.



He came to Princeton from Shady Side Academy in Pittsburgh. He majored in geology, was a member of Elm Club, the Student Christian Association, and Orange Key. He roomed with John Bell and David Lowry.

Upon graduation, Bart spent a year at Penn State University studying mineralogy and then entered the Navy as an ensign on a hydrographic survey ship. After, he began work as a petroleum geologist with Stanolind

Oil Co., and its successor Pan American Petroleum Corp. in Casper and Billings, Wyo. He went on to start his own geological consulting business. During the energy boom of the 1970s Bart became active in the environmental movement. He served on his county's planning and zoning committee, was a member of the Wyoming Geological Survey advisory board, on the board of directors of the National Audubon Society, a trustee of RARE Center for Tropical Conservation, and a board member of Platte River Trails Trust from its inception in the 1980s through August 2025.

Bart was predeceased by his wife Liz. He is survived by his children Marjory, Dan '79, and Bill.

GERHARD F. SIMMEL '51

Gerry came to Princeton from the Oakwood School in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.



He majored in modern languages. He was a member of the Princeton Photo Service, a photographer for the *Nassau Sovereign*, and part of the German and French clubs. He roomed with Rudy Huszagh.

After Princeton, Gerry served in the Marines, then worked as a photographer, journalist, and editor for United Press International in New York, Frankfurt, Tokyo, and Hong Kong for 20 years. He was the editor for *The Asia Magazine* before joining Burston-Marsteller's international public relations firm in its Asian operations office. Returning to the United States, Gerry retired in Sonoma, Calif. He was active in establishing the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art.

Gerry died Feb. 23, 2026. He was predeceased by his wife, Margaret, and survived by his children Derek, George, and Miriam.

THE CLASS OF 1952

JOHN H. BROWN '52 '59

John died Nov. 6, 2025, in Centreville, Va.

He came to us from Woodberry Forest School to study philosophy and eat at Key and Seal Club. He was on the Yacht Club Racing Team and stayed at Princeton to earn



a master's degree in 1957 and a Ph.D. in 1959 in philosophy.

After a brief stint teaching at Washington State, he returned east in 1963 to the University of Maryland at

College Park and had a long teaching career there. His primary professional focus was on aesthetics and philosophy of art, particularly visual art.

The class offers condolences to his daughters Carolyn Brown and Diane B. Perry.

MARK CRANE '52

Mark died July 29, 2025, in Kensington, Md.

He came to us from New Trier High School.



At Princeton, Mark was a member and president of Whig-Clio, named senior class orator, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa. He served in the Navy during the Korean War,

then went on to study law at Harvard, where he met his wife, Constance (Radcliffe '56). He practiced at Hopkins Sutter in Chicago for 44 years until it merged with a national firm. He went on to teach legal ethics at Loyola University Law School.

At the firm, Mark became a nationally recognized antitrust lawyer and federal court litigator in cases both civil and criminal. He was elected to numerous positions: chairman of the antitrust section of the American Bar Association, president of the Seventh Circuit Bar Association, chairman of the Illinois State Bar Federal Judicial Appointments Committee, chairman of the Illinois Committee of the American College of Trial Lawyers, and various other committees appointed by the federal courts in Chicago.

Mark and Connie were active in their church, were avid collectors of Indigenous Peoples and Asian art, traveled extensively, and were regulars at Reunions. He held several volunteer jobs with community organizations in Winnetka, having lived there for most of his adult life, before moving to Maryland to be close to his family.

The class sends good wishes on the loss of our distinguished classmate to his children: Chris (Kit), Kathy (Glenn) Cowan, and Stephanie '85 (Greg '85) Guyett; grandchildren: Eliza, Matthew, Blair (Sean) Peterson, Sara Cowan, Michael (Jenny) Cowan, Patrick Cowan, Charlotte Guyett '13, Douglas Guyett '16, and Lucy Guyett; and great-grandchildren Carter Peterson and Alexander Cowan.

ROBERT MAX TER HORST '52

Bob died Nov. 2, 2025, in Mobile, Ala.

He came to us from Paterson, N.J., and majored in French and German. He served for four years as an officer in the Navy following graduation. He continued to Johns



Hopkins University, earning a master's degree in French in 1961 and Ph.D. in Spanish language and literature in 1963, and meeting his ex-wife and close friend, Eleanor, a fellow Ph.D. student.

His first positions were in several universities (University of Wisconsin-Madison, Duke University, and University of Rochester), followed by 19 years at the University of Arizona at Tucson. In 1988, he moved back to the University of Rochester as a full professor in comparative languages, remaining there until his retirement. He then moved to Mobile to be near his daughter and daughter-in-law.

In addition to numerous articles and a strong scholarly legacy, Bob wrote two books: *Calderon: The Secular Plays* and *The Fortunes of the Novel: A Study in the Transposition of a Genre*.

He was devoted to learning and teaching and was known as a generous mentor to his graduate students. He enjoyed classical music and found a love of long distance running in midlife, moving to intense gym workouts later in life. He volunteered at the Nineteenth Ward Community Association in Rochester, and the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley.

The class offers its condolences to his daughters: Eleanor (Karen Smith) and Catherine Blalock; and his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

STEPHEN H. ROGERS '52

Steve died July 27, 2025, in Annandale, Va. He came to Princeton from Port



Washington (N.Y.) High School, majored in SPIA, and joined Dial Lodge. After graduation, he served for three years as a navigation officer on the destroyer USS

Halsey Powell. In 1956, he met and married his wife, Kent, and joined the Department of State as a Foreign Service Officer for a career lasting 37 years with posts in many countries throughout Europe, Asia, Latin America, and Africa. His career concluded with a U.S. Ambassadorship to Swaziland (now Eswatini). Kent was herself a fixture at 1952 Reunions until her sad death in 2017.

After retiring, he and Kent spent much time with their church, their community, and traveling.

He collected degrees from Columbia (MA in economics 1956), Harvard (MPA 1962), and Industrial College of the Armed Forces (1970 and went on to teach economics there). After retiring he served as our class president for several years.

Steve is survived by his children Kryston '79 (Tim) Fischer, Halsey '86 (Aromie Noe), Julia (Smiley Nelson), and John '88 (Gigi Garcia-

Rogers); grandchildren Sam (Chelsea Ball), Will, Tajin '20, Tayae, Liz, Kyle, and Lucas; and great-grandson Nolan.

THE CLASS OF 1953

STIRLING ALDRICH '53

Hank died Sept. 4, 2025, in Cape Coral, Fla, at the age of 94.



He was born in Yonkers, N.Y., and came to Princeton from New Rochelle High School, where he was class president. At Princeton, he majored in engineering,

joined Cannon Club, and played football (blocking for Dick Kazmaier '52 during his Heisman winning season), hockey, and baseball. Drafted into the Army, he served for two years in the Chemical Corps at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland.

Following the Army, Hank joined Alcoa Corp. in New York, transferring to Seattle and then to Chicago, in support of the Boeing and Ford accounts. He left Alcoa after 13 years and began a lifelong involvement in community recreation and sports. He founded companies that owned and managed more than 30 swim and tennis facilities and indoor tennis and soccer clubs. He constructed track and field facilities, artificial turf fields, and indoor and outdoor tennis courts, including supplying the courts for the Virginia Slims World Championship Series. He served for many years on the board of the US Indoor Sports Association.

Although Hank never retired, he prioritized spending time and lavishing attention on his grandchildren. He loved having them visit, taking them fishing, swimming, and golfing. They loved his energy, his optimism, and his sense of humor.

Hank was predeceased by Lesley, shortly following their 70th wedding anniversary, and their daughter Robin. He is survived by his children Richard '76, Karen, David '81 and his wife Jennifer Dyckman Aldrich '82, and Chris Hatfield '83; seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and his brother, Robert Aldrich '56.

HOWARD C. CARR '53

Howard died on Jan. 25, 2021.



He was born in Dallas, Texas, and prepared for Princeton by attending Hotchkiss. He joined Cap and Gown and majored in economics, writing his thesis on "The Cost of Distribution and Supermarkets."

Howard served with the Navy Supply Corps after graduation. Unfortunately, this is the only information we have on Howard as he never responded to the request for our five-year reports and no obituary has been published.

THE CLASS OF 1956

LEWIS G. GATCH '56

Lew died in his sleep on April 28, 2026.

The son of John N. 1924 and brother of John '44, Lew came to Princeton from Walnut Hills High School in Cincinnati, where he played tennis and swam. He majored in sociology, joined Quadrangle, and participated in multiple sports. He was famous as Princeton Charlie during the 1955 football season. Upon graduation, he married his childhood sweetheart, Noralee Thomas, and served two years in the Army, receiving his paratrooper wings.

Lew earned a law degree from Michigan in 1961 and joined the family law firm in Cincinnati, where he practiced for nearly 65 years. Lew was a storyteller and writer who produced many papers while becoming the longest serving member of the Literary Club of Cincinnati. In addition, he hosted two call-in radio programs on estate planning. Out of the office, Lew enjoyed fishing with family, playing bridge, and all racquet sports. He brought his eternal optimism and warm energy to all.

Lew is survived by his wife of 69 years, Noralee — who stood next to him in their kindergarten class photo — their children, Leah Gatch Tremonti (David), John (Jeri), and Elizabeth Gatch Wolfington; and seven grandchildren.

ARCHIBALD L. GILLIES '56

Arch died Feb. 15, 2026.

He came to Princeton from the Choate



School, where he was president of the senior class and captain of the basketball team. At Princeton, Arch majored in English and religion, joined Ivy Club, and

served as club president as well as our class vice president when he pushed for a fairer bicker process.

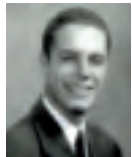
After two years in the Army, Arch worked for Nelson Rockefeller's International Basic Economy Corporation as well as his 1968 presidential campaign. During the 1970s, Arch was president of the John Hay Whitney Foundation and involved in New York City civic affairs as a candidate and organizer. Arch served as president of the Andy Warhol Foundation advancing the organization's mission providing support for generations of artists. He also established the Creative Capital Foundation to defend freedom of expression by funding individual artists. As Arch wrote in our 50th-reunion yearbook, "In whatever job I held, I tried to use the power and influence at hand to bring about a more just and equal society."

Arch and his wife Linda spent their recent years in Islesboro, Maine. He is

survived by Linda and their children David, Douglas, Isabel, and Andrew; and eight grandchildren.

ARNOLD J. KROLL '56

Arnold died Jan. 27, 2026, at home in Chestnut Hill, Mass.



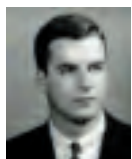
He came to Princeton from Henry Snyder High in Jersey City, where he was valedictorian, editor of the newspaper, a champion gymnast, and an all-state trumpet player. He joined Terrace, majored in biology, played in the orchestra, and earned a varsity letter in fencing. He then earned a medical degree at Columbia and did his residency in ophthalmology at Massachusetts Eye and Ear. He became a faculty member at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, where he pioneered cutting edge surgical techniques. He later served as a clinical professor at Tufts School of Medicine, where he was honored three times as Teacher of the Year.

Arnold met his wife, Carolyn Shamroth, on a blind date that led to marriage and two daughters, Cindy and Debra. They were raised in Weston, and the family was active in Temple Beth Elohim. His favorite times were on Cape Cod, where he loved being on his boat with family and dogs along with swimming and cooking for everyone. He also sang with a group and was reported to sing love songs to Carolyn every day.

Arnold is survived by his wife; daughters Cindy and Debra; and grandsons Joshua and Samuel Mandel.

HAROLD P. LEVITT '56

Harold died March 7, 2023, in Laguna Beach, Calif.



He came to Princeton from the Newark (N.J.) Academy, where he worked on the newspaper, participated in drama, and swam on the swimming team. He majored in psychology, joined Dial Lodge, and competed in IAA football, baseball, and volleyball. After graduation, Hal worked for his family chemical business but was attracted to French literature, which led to studying in Paris followed by a Ph.D. at New York University in 1968, where he met his future wife Jahn, a Random House editor.

Hal joined the faculty at California State Polytechnic University in San Luis Obispo, where he taught for 35 years and served as chairman of the English and Foreign Languages Department while Jahn traveled as a fashion executive and buyer for Federated Department Stores (often accompanied by her husband). Together they raised their son Joshua David. Hal also developed a small practice in Pomona, Calif.,

as a certified marriage and family therapist. In retirement, they enjoyed their second home steps from the Pacific Ocean as well as their summer Paris pied-a-terre.

Hal is survived by his wife, Jahn; son Joshua and his wife Molly; and grandchildren Reese Fox and Brynn Yael.

BEVIS LONGSTRETH JR. '56

Bevis, of Philipstown, N.Y., died May 2, 2026.



He followed his father Bevis Longstreth Sr. 1915 to Princeton from The Hill School. Bevis joined Ivy Club, majored in basic engineering, and played club rugby and varsity ice hockey. After two years in the Marines and three years at Harvard Law School, Bevis joined the New York law firm of Debevoise & Plimpton. In 1963, he married Radcliffe graduate Clara S. St. John, then a music teacher at the Riverdale School and later music director of the New Amsterdam Singers.

Bevis pursued a dual career as lawyer and author. President Reagan appointed him commissioner of the Securities and Exchange Commission serving from 1981 to 1984. As a partner at Debevoise & Plimpton, he taught at Columbia Law School as an adjunct professor, followed by service as a trustee of The New School and member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Bevis' books include three historical novels spanning 25 centuries of adventure from ancient Persia to the Depression era in the United States as well as a guide to modern investment.

Bevis is survived by his wife Clara; their three children Katherine Shiras, Thomas Day, and Benjamin Hoyt; and nine grandchildren.

JOHN H. WILLIAMS II '56

John died March 2, 2026, in Bennington, Vt.



He came to Princeton from Tottenville High School on Staten Island, N.Y., where he participated in debating, Boys State, and the National Honor Society. John majored in the Woodrow Wilson School, joined Campus Club, and served as vice president of Whig Clio and as a member of the Undergraduate Council. After graduating from Columbia Law School, he headed to Vermont, where he set up a law practice and met his wife-to-be Deborah and together, they built a "dream house" and raised four children.

Always interested in public service, John served as founding member and chair of the Mt. Anthony Union High School board, chair of the board of trustees of Bennington College and its interim president, a trustee of Southern Vermont Medical Center and

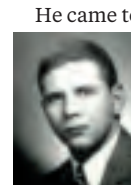
the Vermont Human Services Board, and a vestryman and senior warden of St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

John is survived by his wife and their children: Lane Hadley Williams, Sarah Gay Dagher, Amanda Van Pelt Dube, Hall Cushman Williams, and a "daughter in spirit" Mary Catherine Wright; 11 grandchildren; and three great-grandsons (one of whom is named Princeton).

THE CLASS OF 1957

MARSHAL BACKLAR '57

Marshal died March 18, 2022, in Los Angeles.



He came to Princeton from St. Louis Country Day School, played on the freshman soccer team, and acted in Theatre Intime. Joining Colonial Club, he represented them on intramural football

and volleyball teams. Marshal majored in philosophy, writing his thesis on the problem of the immanent and transcendent in the dichotomy between rationality and irrationality.

Following graduation, he studied philosophy at the Sorbonne in Paris. Marshal then completed his military service in the Army, including service as an Army newspaper editor in Germany, attaining the rank of private first class. He then changed his career direction by becoming an agent and then a movie producer in Los Angeles. In 1966, his production of the short motion picture "Skaterdater" won first prize at the Cannes Film Festival.

In 1972, he married Whitney Stewart. They had three children, Darcy, Thea, and Jeremy. Marshal continued with various positions in the entertainment field, including president of Cinema Entertainment Corp., director of dramatic productions for ABC, including "Dynasty," and then became senior vice president of RMC.

He then opened Marshals, a restaurant, in Paris that he attributes as the cause of his divorce. He then married Natalie Schneider, moved to London as media director for Korn/Ferry executive recruiters, and finally returned to California as a producer for Playboy Enterprises and then president of a firm, Backlar Consultants.

He is survived by his wife, Natalie; his three children and their families; and his ex-wife, Whitney.

EDWARD K. DUNN JR. '57

Ed died March 31, 2022.

The son of Edward K. Dunn 1922, nephew of five alumni uncles, and father of Edward K. Dunn III '84, Ed came to Princeton from the Gilman School, majored in economics, and joined Ivy Club. He was advertising manager of the *Bric-a-Brac* and head manager of the lacrosse team. Due



to illness, he left Princeton during junior year but returned the following fall. His junior roommates were Buzzy Krongard and Shaw Wilgis.

Shortly after graduation he married Janet Evans and then earned an MBA at Harvard. Thereafter he worked as an investment banker, vice president, and director at Robert Garrett & Sons and a commercial banker at Mercantile Trust Co. His family grew with the addition of Holly, Edward III, and Peter.

A pillar of the Baltimore community, Ed served as chairman of the board of Johns Hopkins Medicine and vice chairman of Johns Hopkins University, the Robert Garrett Fund, and the Catholic Family Foundation. He also loved to fish with his wife and classmates Stan Emery, Eb Faber, and Cary Woodward.

Ed is survived by his wife, Janet; their three children; and their families.

DONLYN R. LYNDON '57 *59

Don died April 5, 2026.

At Princeton, he majored in architecture,



joined Cloister Inn, and was the student representative to the American Institute of Architects. Although rooming alone in Little Hall, he had numerous connections with instructors like Victor Olgyay and fellow students Charles Moore and William Turnbull in the Princeton Architectural Lab.

After graduation, he earned an MFA degree in 1959 and then was a Fulbright scholar in India. Returning to the U.S. in 1960, he joined his father's firm, followed by establishment of a firm with friends Moore and Turnbull and Whitaker. He also served in academia at the University of California, Berkeley, and as head of architecture departments at the University of Oregon and MIT, guest lecturer at universities in the U.S. and Europe, followed by a professorship at the University of Maryland. He married Alice Atkinson. She changed her name to Alice Wingwall, attaining fame as a sculptor and photographer.

Don published numerous articles and books, some with photos by his wife, and won prizes for his designs in many states and European countries. He is well known for his designs at Sea Ranch, Calif., where his Condominium One Building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and his own home and many other buildings are in the book *Sea Ranch* published by Princeton Architectural Press in 2004.

Alice died Feb. 26, 2026. Don is survived by their three children, Andrew, Audrey, and Laura-Kate, and their families.

JOHN H. WERT '57

John died April 4, 2026, in Grand Rapids, Mich. At Princeton he majored in history



and was a freshman and varsity baseball player for four years. Joining Tiger Inn, he became a member of many of its intramural sports teams, a member of its Bicker

Committee, and roomed there with Ed Byers, Tony Gibbs, Charlie Hauser, Fritz Heyd, and Paul Schnatz his senior year. He also was a member of Whig-Clilo.

After graduation John spent time with the Air Force and Reserves, including action during the Cuban Missile Crisis. While an officer of the National Bank of Detroit, he married Martha "Marnie" Stevenson and they had four children. He later became an institutional bond expert at Halsey, Stuart & Co. in Detroit and Philadelphia, and later with Bache Halsey Stuart in Grand Rapids, and as a senior vice president at Tucker Anthony in Grand Rapids. He founded his own firm, Wert Financial Group, that he sold in 2009. He and Marnie moved to Ocean Ridge, Fla., but maintained the Michigan home near their daughter.

John became a member of the board of the Clark Foundation, raising funds for the Clark Retirement Community, where his wife had great care and where she died.

John was predeceased by his wife of 53 years, Marnie, in 2013, his son Stephen in 2022, and his lady friend and partner, Andy Anderson, in 2022. John is survived by sons John Jr. '82 and wife Sherry '83 h'57, and Robert; daughter Elizabeth and her husband Mike; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1959

DANIEL G. DRATH '59 *62

Dan died Sept. 10, 2025, after a brief cancer recurrence, in Friday Harbor, Wash., where he had lived since 2002.



He attended Sir Francis Drake High School in San Anselmo, Calif. where he joined the ski club and belonged to the track team

and student court. He was a cheerleader at Princeton and majored in electrical engineering. He joined the ski team and Outing Club, belonged to Key and Seal, and roomed with Burt Johnson and Dick Lanza. He returned to Princeton for his MSE in 1962. He spent nearly three decades in the San Francisco Bay Area, working as a senior staff engineer at Lockheed Missiles & Space Co., before retiring in 1992.

Dan was a man of remarkable breadth and interests. He raced and cruised San Francisco Bay aboard his Bird Boat and Farallone Clipper; built skiffs, kayaks, and dories by hand; and crafted fine furniture. He held ham radio call sign N6AU, qualified

as a Merchant Marine master, and at 79 passed the Morse code exam at 30 words per minute. He studied German into his 80s, sang barbershop, built model trains, and found community in Friday Harbor through radio, rowing, and service.

He is survived by his wife, Eileen; children Emily (Mark) and Daniel '95 (Aaron); and grandsons Ryan, Andrew, and Henry.

DALE C. GOLDSMITH '59

Dale died Jan. 16, 2026. He was an educator, minister, scholar, author, lifelong teacher,



and pastor with a life devoted to learning and mentoring students and engaging his church with honesty.

Raised in Chicago, Dale graduated as valedictorian of Schurz High School, where he was a cellist and a city cross-country champion. At Princeton, he distinguished himself both academically and in campus life. He ran cross country, participated in musical theater as a composer and touring musician with the Triangle Club, and played a leading role in the founding of Wilson Lodge, the alternate dining facility for undergraduates. Graduating *summa cum laude* in religion he earned the Rockefeller Theology Scholarship and the prestigious Potts Bible Prize.

Following Princeton, he earned master's and doctoral degrees at the University of Chicago, where he met and married Catherine Mae Choguill in 1959. He served with the American Baptist Convention, lecturing in Spanish at the Seminario Bautista de México. Returning to the United States, he taught philosophy, religion, and theology at several colleges and universities, including McPherson College in Kansas, where he served as academic dean, mentor to generations of students, and became emeritus professor of religion. Ordained to the ministry of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in 1985, Dale served rural congregations in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Dale is survived by his wife, Catherine; his children, John, Katherine, and Joy; his brother; and several other relatives.

JAMES P. SINCLAIR '59

With Jimmy's passion for ocean racing, alpine skiing, golf, court tennis, steeplechase



racing, squash, and fox hunting, he was truly a sportsman for all seasons. His love for theater, opera, symphony, and New York City's finer dining establishments made him a thoroughgoing "man about town."

Jimmy came to us from Virginia's horse country via St. Alban's School. At Princeton, he majored in history, served

with distinction in NROTC, dined at Charter, roomed with Harley Haynes and Dick Woods, rowed crew, and co-captained a victorious sailing team,

Following graduation and service with the Navy he married Ellie Crosby with whom he had his two older sons (James and Ian), earned an MBA at the University of Virginia's Darden School, and quickly headed to the canyons of Wall Street, where he spent four decades in the field of investment banking. Remarried to "Daisy" Nieland with whom he had two additional sons (Duncan and Gibbons), he and Daisy enjoyed 43 years of matrimony with summers spent on Martha's Vineyard, and "service" for several years as commodore of the Edgartown Yacht Club.

A master storyteller with an uncanny memory for people and events, Jimmy's intellect, kindness, and passion allowed him to live life to the fullest, to the very end, when he died Jan. 26, 2026. Predeceased by Daisy, he was survived by his first wife, Ellie, and his children.

THE CLASS OF 1960

THEODORE HAHN JR. '60

Born and raised in Baltimore, Ted graduated from Baltimore City College, where he



practiced wrestling and track. With us, he rowed freshman crew, majored in chemistry, worked at WPRB, joined Court Club, Chemistry Club, and Westminster Fellowship, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa.

Ted returned to Baltimore to earn a medical degree at Johns Hopkins and marry his lab mate, Bevra, all in 1964. They moved together to Barnes Hospital, St. Louis University, where both interned. They then spent two years near Washington, D.C. Ted did research in endocrine and bone marrow illness and Bevra worked in rheumatology, both at the National Institutes of Health. In 1970, they were called back to serve as faculty at St. Louis University.

In 1983, they went to Wadsworth Medical Center at UCLA, Ted to serve as head of its geriatrics research center and Bevra as chief of rheumatology. Ted also became director of Veterans Affairs in osteoporosis and bone marrow programs. Ted retired as department chair in 2009 to continue working in research. He wrote many papers and 20 book chapters on his subjects. Both enjoyed all of California's outdoor charms, from deep sea fishing to motoring country roads in his red BMW.

Ted died Feb. 16, 2026, after a long COVID-19 illness. He is survived by Bevra, their two daughters, and two grandchildren.

THEODORE R. MONICA JR. '60

Ted died April 17, 2026, in Quakertown, Pa., after a lengthy battle with Parkinson's



disease.

He grew up in West Orange, N.J., and attended Newark Academy, where he excelled in football and basketball. At Princeton, Ted majored in art history and was a member of Tiger Inn.

After Princeton, Ted earned a law degree from Rutgers Law School in 1963. He then embarked on a 35-year legal career in New Jersey. For much of his career, Ted's law offices were in Morristown, N.J. His legal expertise ranged from real estate transactions to matrimonial law to criminal law.

In the late 1980s, Ted and his wife of 61 years, Lynne S. Monica, moved to Pipersville, Pa., where they renovated and rehabilitated a stone farmhouse and barn, originally built circa 1840, situated on 80 acres of beautiful farmland. Ted maintained residence in Pipersville until his death.

Upon retiring from his legal practice, Ted shared his love of the arts as an adjunct professor of art history at Bucks County Community College, in Newtown, Pa. He was beloved by his students for his expansive knowledge of art history, entertaining lectures, and quick wit. Ted and Lynne traveled extensively throughout their marriage, developing a deep love and passion for Italy and France.

Ted is survived by his wife, Lynne; his son, Christopher; and two grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1961

DANIEL W. GOODENOUGH '61

Dan died March 3, 2026, in Two Harbors, Minn.



A son of '34, he came to us from Hotchkiss School. At Princeton, he majored in history, took his meals at Cloister, and roomed with Dave Stebbing and

David Woodard '62.

After Princeton, he earned an M.Div. at Bryn Athyn College Theological School and a master's in sacred theology at Lutheran Theological Seminary before embarking on a career in teaching history and religion at the Academy of the New Church in Bryn Athyn, Pa. He was president of the Academy for 10 years before retiring in 2010, then relocating to Big Horn, Wyo., and then Two Harbors in 2014. He was active to the end, leading backpacking trips in the Rockies with his students and children. He died "chopping wood with his boots on," as he always wanted.

Preceded in death in 2025 by Ruth, his wife of 63 years, and his son Danny in 1989 in a climbing accident, Dan is survived by four daughters, eight grandchildren, and two sisters.

HARLEY RANKIN JR. '61

Toby died Dec. 29, 2025, from Parkinson's disease and dementia at Sage Living in



Jackson, Wyo., where he and Lucy had lived since 2000.

Born in Philadelphia, he came to us from the Episcopal Academy. At Princeton, he majored in history, took his meals at Cottage, and worked on the Campus Fund Drive. He roomed with George Barker, Tal Mack, Tom Garrett, Ed Brown, Bill H. Miller, Dick Butt, Paul Sanger, and Scott Driscoll.

After service as an officer in the Navy, he earned an MBA at Harvard before embarking on a long career in the canning industry, first with Continental Can and then with Silgan Holdings as a co-founder, where he served as EVP and CFO. He was on the 41st floor of Tower 2 of the World Trade Center on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, during the terrorist attack.

Retiring in 2002, he and Lucy moved to Jackson Hole to embrace the active outdoor lifestyle and to be closer to their children. Toby is survived by his wife Lucy; children Chris, Todd, and Susie; and six grandchildren.

SAMUEL S. REA '61

Sam died Sept. 23, 2025, of kidney cancer in Washington, D.C.

Coming from a long line of Princetonians, he was born in Pittsburgh and came to us from Andover, with a post-graduate year in the U.K. At Princeton, he majored in history, took his meals at Ivy, rowed lightweights, and roomed with Curt Campaigne, Adrian Colley, Alex Forrester, Chip Hatch, and Fred Sheehan.

After earning an MA in African studies at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies — he was long fascinated with African history and culture — and a Ph.D. at Columbia in public law and government, Sam went on to a 30-year career at USAID, serving with distinction in Tanzania, Botswana, Senegal, and Madagascar, retiring as director of its office of education, global. He also taught at the Industrial College of the National Armed Forces Institute in Washington. In retirement he studied the Bible and Christianity and was a devoted member of the National Cathedral in Washington.

Sam is survived by his wife Julia, also a USAID retiree; sons Bayard and Benjmain from his first marriage; and four grandchildren.

CONTEE T. SEELY '61

Contee died Feb. 19, 2026, in Berkeley, Calif.

Born in Asheville, N.C., and raised in Baltimore, he came to us in a large contingent from the Landon School. At



Princeton, he majored in philosophy, took his meals at Key and Seal, and was a member of the *Bric-a-Brac* and the International Students

Association. He roomed with Bill Rough, Hal Lackey, Chuck Watson, Russ Tremaine, Dick Webster, Bill Buxton, Rich Palmer, and Bill Radebaugh.

After Princeton, Contee studied at the University of the Pacific to earn a teaching certificate and taught English, Spanish, and ESL, among other languages, in Latin America and the Bay Area, which does not come close to describing his interesting career. He was an influential language educator, author, and publisher at the Command Performance Language Institute, of which he was a founder, at the University of California at Berkeley. He was a “tireless innovator in the language teaching community,” according to his obituary, specializing in Total Physical Response in Storytelling (TPRS).

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Maggie; children Michael and Christina; two grandchildren; and his brother James '57.

BOONE SPARROW '61

Recently we learned that Boone died Jan. 26, 2021, presumably in Phoenix, where he lived for many years.

He was born and raised in Wise, Mont., and came to us from Beaverhead County High School. He left Princeton before we graduated, eventually earning a B.A. in English at the University of Montana.

Other than his entry in our 10th reunion yearbook, he never communicated with the class. Thus we know nothing about his career other than that he taught English composition in several venues and was a freelance writer.

There are no known next of kin.

THE CLASS OF 1962

JOHN E. KOLOFOLIAS '62

John died May 25, 2022.

He came to us from Phillips Andover



Academy, where he was active in the Outing Club, the French Club, the Greek Club, and ran cross-country and track. At Princeton, he was active in Orange Key, Orthodox Christian Fellowship, and Army ROTC. In his freshman year he managed the freshman cross-country and track teams. He majored in history and dined at Cannon Club.

Following his military service, he planned to attend law school and practice law. He did that as subsequent entries in our reunion books show him practicing law in Lowell, Mass.

John is survived by his sisters, Elaine Stephanides and Anastasia Pappas; and many nieces and nephews.

R. DALE LeCOUNT JR. '62

Dale died March 25, 2026, in Matthews, N.C.

He came to us from Ramsay High School in Birmingham, Ala., where he was president of the senior class. At Princeton, Dale was the vice president of the Westminster Foundation, a Chapel Deacon, member of the Undergraduate Schools Committee, and the Inter-Club Council. He rowed four years on crew, majored in history, and dined at Campus Club and was president his senior year.

He worked briefly in Princeton's Admissions Office while earning his Ed.D. from Columbia. Beginning a career in education, he was an assistant professor and administrator at Franklin & Marshall College, followed by 20 years as dean of students and later dean of continuing education at Muhlenberg College. Dale and his wife, Peg, moved to Matthews, N.C., where he became the development officer for the Presbyterian Church (USA) Foundation.

His other interests included golf, indoor rowing, weightlifting, current affairs, religion, and rooting for the Phillies and Eagles. He was active in the Sardis Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, N.C., and the local Rotary Club.

The class extends its condolences to his wife, Peg, and three children, Melinda, Andy, and Scott.

THE CLASS OF 1963

ALEXANDER V. ARMENTROUT '63

Alex died March 17, 2026, at home in Rockland, Maine. His wife and daughter were at his bedside.

A native of Philadelphia, Alex came to us from The Hill School. At Princeton, he was in the School of Public and International Affairs, on the swim team, and sailed with the Yacht Club. He took his meals at Cap and Gown and roomed senior year with Jim Griffith.

Alex graduated from Harvard Business School and began a varied career that included being general manager of a textile mill in Sanford, Maine, president of Journal Publications in Camden, Maine, publisher of the *Waterway Guide* in Annapolis, Md., and associate publisher of *Yachting Magazine*.

Alex had a lifelong love of sailing, beginning at age 6. At 15, at the invitation of a Norwegian Olympic gold medal winner whom he met in Oyster Bay, N.Y., he traveled in summer by himself to Oslo, Norway. He boarded the 6-meter racing sailboat, *Goose*, traveling down the Oslo Fjord to Hanko,

Norway, where he served as foredeck man in an international regatta.

In 1989, Alex and wife Paula moved to Maine, eventually settling in Rockport. Alex worked with school boards, served as vice chair of the zoning board of appeals, chairman of the ordinance review committee, and commodore of the Rockport Boat Club, and nourished hobbies including collecting art and fine wines.

Alex is survived by his wife of 48 years, Paula; son Nicholas; daughter Victoria; three grandchildren; and one step-grandchild. His brother Richard was a member of the Class of '65.

PAUL R. MARCHAND JR. '63

Paul died April 21, 2026, in Montreal, his hometown.



He came to Princeton on a scholarship earned at Lower Canada College in Montreal, majored in English and won the Class of 1870 English Prize sophomore

year. He took his meals at Quadrangle and roomed with Loftus, Pickman, Willard, and Varner.

Paul earned a law degree from McGill University in Montreal in 1966 and a master's in law degree in 1985. In an article years later for the University's "Report on Giving," he wrote: "There was no public legal aid when I started law, but most junior lawyers were often asked to do pro bono work. This was early in my married life when I was a member of St. George's Church whose congregation was partly suburban and partly Black parishioners from nearby Little Burgundy. My wife and I became Sunday school teachers and tried to help our parishioners."

The many causes Paul supported over the years included medicine, nursing, education, and Indigenous art. As president of the Doggone Foundation and as executor of other estates, he assisted in the distribution of over \$100 million. In 2024, he was awarded the prestigious Medal of the National Assembly for his contribution to Quebec society.

Paul was predeceased by his wife of 48 years, Jennifer, in 2013. He is survived by daughters Amanda and Jessica; son Matthew; and nine grandchildren.

THE CLASS OF 1964

GEORGE J. KHOURI '64

George died April 4, 2026, in New York City after a brief illness. He was 83.

Raised in Brooklyn Heights in New York City, he attended Poly Prep, where he played football and baseball. He graduated from Princeton with an AB in classics and a minor in American history. He roomed with John Rush and the late Richard Rizutti, played



freshman football and lacrosse, and ate at Cannon Club.

George received a master's degree in classics from Columbia University and

taught for three years at the Darrow School in New Lebanon, N.Y. After earning a law degree from Columbia, he became an associate at Davis, Polk in New York City and then went into private practice in real estate and business law. He retired in 2024.

George was deeply committed to Princeton and his class. He established and for years hosted frequent class lunches in New York. In 2015, he received the Jo Johnson Spirit of '64 Award for his service to the class.

He will be remembered for his graciousness, humility, and commitment to the betterment of others. He was a quiet man, but when he spoke, his words resonated. He was a special person who will be missed by all who knew him.

The class offers condolences to his wife of 44 years, Margee, and their daughter, Hope, and her husband Miguel Negron.

W.S. GERALD SKEY '64

Gerry died March 11, 2026, in Princeton, his home for 55 years.



He was born in Johannesburg, South Africa, and his family eventually moved to Wilton, Conn. He attended St. Marks School.

At Princeton, he majored in English, ate at Cottage Club, and lettered in soccer, squash and, most significantly, baseball. He was a left-handed pitcher who, according to Princeton lacrosse legend Bryce Chase '63, was so powerful that his "fastball seemed to rise as it reached the plate, like a major leaguer." Bryce and Gerry were lifelong friends who frequently argued amicably over which was a better sport, baseball or lacrosse.

After Princeton Gerry spent four years, including a one-year tour in Vietnam, as an officer in the Marines. He then earned a law degree from University of Connecticut Law School. He practiced law in Princeton beginning in 1971 and later formed a firm of which he was co-partner.

Gerry met Sally Reed in 1964. They were married soon thereafter and had three children, including Scott '93, and four grandkids. Gerry was an opera lover and served on the board of McCarter Theatre. He volunteered at a soup kitchen and recorded audio books for the blind. He was also an avid golfer. As he once wrote in a class book, "My home away from home is Springdale Golf Club — my car just automatically drives me there."

THE CLASS OF 1966

STANLEY BARRY BORUP '66

The class has recently learned that Stanley died June 20, 2021, at age 76.

He was born in Douglas, Neb., and came to Princeton from Bear Creek High School, in Morrison, Colo. Classmates recall that he was a waiter in Commons freshman year. He left Princeton early and did not maintain contact with the class.

He is buried in Rawlins Cemetery, in Rawlins, Carbon County, Wyo. The class sends its condolences to Stanley's family.

FRANK W. EIGHME '66

Frank died March 3, 2021, in Oakland, Calif.

He came to Princeton from Barrington (R.I.) High School, where he excelled in basketball. In 1961, he was named to the Rhode Island Basketball Coaches Association All-State Team. At Princeton, he played on the freshman basketball team. In our sophomore year, Frank roomed in Holder Hall with a group that included Roger Evans, Bob Baughan, Tom Anderson, Jim Beverley, and Dick Lowenstein. He left Princeton in the spring of that year. He later enrolled at Bowdoin College, graduating in 1967.

After Bowdoin, Frank enlisted in the Navy and served as an officer in Southeast Asia. Following an honorable discharge in San Diego, he remained in California and worked as a personnel manager for the Coast Guard.

According to his obituary in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, he loved sports, especially baseball, basketball, golf, and beach volleyball.

Frank's wife, Kathryn Asbury Eighme, predeceased him. He is survived by his brothers, Scott and Greg; nephews Justin and Maurice; and stepsons Dennis and Mark Dease.

THE CLASS OF 1968

THEODORE L. LYTLE JR. '68

Terry died April 13, 2021, in Agoura Hills, Calif. Word of his passing just



recently reached the University.

He came to us from Brighton High School in Rochester, N.Y., where he was captain of the swim team,

president of the National Honor Society, and president of the senior class. At Princeton, his activities included USC committee chairman, captain of the Charity Fund Drive, varsity swimming, Pre-Law Society, and the Sailing Club. He majored in English and ate at Cannon Club. Senior year, he lived in Patton with Izzo, Hines, and Nash. He was preceded at Princeton by his father, Dr. Theodore L. Lytle '35, and succeeded at Princeton by his brothers Glenn '70 and James '74.

Following graduation, Terry attended Cornell Law School, where he received his J.D. degree. His career began in Washington, D.C., where he was an attorney for the Federal Trade Commission, the Senate Judiciary Committee (as Ted Kennedy's staff counsel), and the Senate Antitrust Committee. He left Washington to go into private practice in California, where he was a partner in three different firms, representing such clients as HBO, and the State of California against Michael Millken and Drexel Burnham. A career-ending head injury forced him to retire in 1993, but he largely recovered and led a very active and happy life thereafter.

The class extends its deepest sympathies to his wife Laura; children Christine, Theodore III, Connor, and Leilani; as well as his friends and extended family.

HENRY WASZKOWSKI '68

Henry died Jan. 28, 2026, in Atlanta, Ga.



He came to us from the Loomis School, where he was active on the school newspaper and yearbook staffs. At Princeton,

Henry majored in basic engineering and participated on the Ski Team, in Triangle Club, and the Jesters. He ate independently and lived in Patton Hall his senior year with Ledyard, Tundermann, and Larsen.

After graduation, he entered the Navy and graduated first in his class from Officer Supply School, securing an assignment at the Newport Naval Base. Upon mustering out, he went to graduate school and received an MBA from MIT. He enjoyed a long and successful career at Wachovia Bank, following which he branched out on his own and founded his business, Treasury Performance Consulting. In retirement, his hobbies included photography, travel, cooking, wine club, windsurfing, and cycling.

The class extends its deepest sympathies to his widow Patty; his children Anna, Peter, Stephanie, and Emily; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and his sister, Carol.

THE CLASS OF 1973

WILLIAM W. ELLIS III '73

Bill died July 14, 2025, in Gold River, Calif.



He attended Upper Arlington High School in Ohio, where he was a member of the swim team and the choir.

He followed his father, William W. Ellis Jr. '46, to Princeton. Bill majored in politics and wrote his thesis under the guidance of Professor Stanley

Kelley on “The Effects of the Political Orientation of Newspapers on Voting Behavior.” He had a three-year run of hosting late night shows on WPRB. He was both a member of Charter and one of the last members of Cannon, where he lived senior year. He was also a member of the freshman swim team, where classmate Chris Howard remembers Bill volunteering to be a diver, though that was not his skill. Each time there was a swim meet, Bill dived for Princeton, and though he came in last for his diving, he still accumulated points that helped Princeton in the swimming competitions.

After graduation Bill ran Ellis Computer Services, and then he became a systems analyst at Fiore Industries.

Bill wrote in the *Nassau Herald* that he enjoyed his time at Princeton as he found it to be an excellent place where one could begin to get some kind of understanding of oneself.

The Class of 1973 regrets the loss of yet another member of our Princeton family and sends its sympathies to Bill’s wife, Ruth.

MICHAEL M. MACVICAR ’73

Michael died June 28, 2020, in Lake Placid, Fla. He is survived by his two brothers, Ken and Alan.

Michael attended Columbus High School in South Miami, Fla., where he was treasurer of the National Honor Society. He entered Princeton with the Class of 1973, and during his freshman year he roomed for a short while with Chuck Farkas. But Michael did not graduate. In 1975, he married Laura Gail Goulding.

We do not know anything else about Michael’s life. But he was a member of our class, and his death should be honored and acknowledged. The class sends its sympathy to Michael’s two brothers.

THE CLASS OF 1978

MICHEL F. HOLSTEN ’78

Michel died Oct. 6, 2025, of a pulmonary embolism in Bangkok, where he and Terry made their home.

At Princeton, Michel rowed heavyweight crew and joined Cap. It is reported that he wrote his econ thesis in the two weeks before deadline and aced it.

After successfully finishing a corporate training program, Michel realized that a very different life called out to him. He spent several years listening for that call, working construction, camping, and motorcycling, becoming an adventurous cook and lover of local cultures. Eventually, he found his call in the Peace Corps, serving in Costa Rica and Panama before transferring to DC to oversee operations throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. He was particularly proud of

re-establishing the Peace Corps in Panama after a 25-year break.

After leaving the Peace Corps, Michel settled into international development with Global Communities — housing, disaster relief, microfinance, public health, and whatever other projects made sense in localities worldwide.

Throughout his life, Michel remained deeply curious and passionate about biking, cooking, learning, and gathering friends together into something deeper. Somehow, he and Terry made their international life — sometimes on different continents — work out for themselves, their three children, and their communities.

MARK S. MELLMAN ’78

Mark died from pancreatic cancer Nov. 20, 2025, in Washington, D.C.

He was a dominant force in Democratic opinion research for more than 40 years. He shaped American political advocacy for Israel, founding the Democratic Majority for Israel in 2019 and working extensively with AIPAC.

While at Princeton, Mark also served as executive director of the Committee of Concerned Scientists, graduating on the five-year plan to balance both roles. He earned a master’s degree at Yale and started a Ph.D. but left in 1981 to run polling for an underdog primary candidate who overcame his party-endorsed opponent and then won the general election. Mark never looked back, helping 30 senators, 12 governors, and dozens of representatives win seats. His highest profile race was John Kerry’s unsuccessful 2004 presidential run.

Classmates remember Mark as an insightful thinker and masterful raconteur, with the ability to make a room roar with laughter and then inspire them into action.

Alongside political races, Mark also worked extensively for corporate and issues-oriented clients. He had the stature and commitment to take on only clients and causes he believed in deeply, and the dedication to work closely with pollsters of a broad range of political orientations.

We send heartfelt condolences to Mindy and their family.

THE CLASS OF 1981

SUSANNA ADAMS JONES ’81

Susanna died Sept. 21, 2025. She dedicated her long and illustrious career to the promotion of girls’ education.

Born in Huntington, N.Y., Susanna graduated from Phillips Academy Andover in 1977. At Princeton, Susanna majored in history and afterwards earned an MA and an M.Phil. in history from Columbia University.

For 16 years, Susanna was head of school



for the Holton-Arms School in Bethesda, Md., retiring in 2023. Previously, she was head of school for The Ethel Walker School, in Simsbury, Conn., and upper school

director at Marlborough School in Los Angeles. After retiring from Holton-Arms, Susanna joined the educational consulting firm Carney, Sando, and Associates. She also continued to promote girls’ education as executive director of The 1911 Group, which emphasizes female leadership. Susanna was also a founder of the Association of Academic Leaders at One Schoolhouse.

Susanna is survived by her husband of 36 years, Robert Dayton Beguelin; their son Aaron Ogden Dayton Beguelin; and her brother Thomas Jones.

WILLIAM M. ANDERSEN ’81

Surrounded by his family at their farm near Phoenixville, Pa., Bill died Oct. 31, 2025, after a lengthy illness.



Born in Wilmington, Del., Bill spent summers on the family farm, where he developed a lifelong love of agriculture and land

conservation. He grew and sold corn in high school, earning the nickname “Corn” from fellow freshmen in the Princeton Inn annex and other classmates who would reunite as the “Hellhole” throughout his life. At Princeton, Bill majored in geological engineering, joined Tiger Inn, and played freshman football and rugby.

In 1980, while attending geology field camp in Red Lodge, Mont., he met his future wife, Liz Dibble (Amherst ’81). After earning an MBA from Wharton, Bill founded Longview Property Group and built a successful career developing commercial and residential projects.

In 1990, Bill and Liz purchased Broadwater Farm near Phoenixville, where they raised four children and restored the historic property. They revitalized its orchard, planting hundreds of trees, and became pillars of the local sustainability movement, helping to found the Phoenixville Farmers’ Market in 2002.

Bill is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; children Kathryn Keating ’08 (Jared ’05), Charles (Kathleen), Arnold (Nicole), and Eleanor MacGibbon (Douglas); five grandchildren; mother Kathryn; and siblings James, Donald, and Sarah Willig ’83.

THE CLASS OF 1984

JOHN F. PAULY ’84

John died March 20, 2026, from early-onset Alzheimer’s, in West Palm Beach, Fla., with his wife, Mirta Araoz, and daughters Sara and Anais at his side, and his mother Sharon Pauly’s love always present.



At Princeton, John rowed heavyweight crew, studied politics, and belonged to Tiger Inn. A gentle giant, a truly kind soul, John touched many.

He earned his law degree from the University of Florida and then clerked for Judge Rosemary Barkett.

John devoted his life to helping those less fortunate than he. Protecting rights, upholding dignity, and standing for fairness embodied who John was. He epitomized "Princeton in the nation's service" through these actions.

After his clerkship, John spent several years in Guatemala working for the United Nations and monitoring elections. Sometimes using the name Juan Pablo, he loved Guatemala and spoke fluent Spanish.

John was a longtime member of Florida's ACLU and chaired its local chapter's board of directors. He worked many years as an assistant public defender in Palm Beach County, doing both trial and appellate work.

John is greatly missed by those fortunate to have known him.

THE CLASS OF 1991

JOYCE MARIE NELSON '91

Joyce died March 31, 2026, at her home in Brooklyn after a seven-year battle with



primary progressive aphasia and early onset dementia.

Born in the Bronx Feb. 27, 1969, to Walter and Joyce Nelson, Joyce attended Hunter College High School

before matriculating at Princeton. A member of Terrace, Joyce was USG projects board coordinator, junior class secretary-treasurer, production manager for the *Nassau Weekly*, and rowed novice crew. Remembered by friends for her wicked sense of humor and strong sense of justice, Joyce handled life with grace, calm, caring, and love.

Soon after graduation, she returned to New York City, where she built her career, working primarily at TIAA and raising her family. Joyce was a devoted volunteer with numerous city organizations. Her two favorite places were the family home in Montauk and Prospect Park in Brooklyn, where she loved to take long walks.

She is survived by her husband, James Wagman; her son, Matthew Wagman; and her sister, Karin O'Connor, who wrote, "Dementia can be cruel ... there are no rules, directions or clear signals ahead. You can't even expect the unexpected." The class extends heartfelt condolences to all who knew and loved her.

THE CLASS OF 2014

AMINATA B. SEYDI '14

Aminata died March 30, 2026, in Dakar.

She was raised in Senegal and educated at the French International School in Bethesda.



Drawn to how stories shape power and possibility, she majored in comparative literature and wrote her senior thesis on the colonial roots of African narrative.

She served as advocacy chair for the Student Global AIDS Campaign and wellness peer adviser for the Association of Black Women; Aminata summered in places like Sierra Leone, quietly pouring herself and planting a piece of her heart in communities far beyond the campus gates.

Leading a life of extraordinary purpose and deep human warmth, her work with the WHO across Africa and beyond — from Geneva to Nairobi to South Africa to Brazzaville — strengthening health systems, protecting the most vulnerable, and translating complex knowledge into policies reached millions. Her vision for a healthier, more equitable Africa lives on through all whose lives she touched.

She earned an MPH at Yale, was pursuing her DrPH at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, and was a certified health and wellness coach. She was equally at home in a boardroom and a village because she never saw those worlds as separate. People who crossed her path, however briefly, felt seen and cared for.

Aminata is survived by her husband Matthias Reichwald; her mother Madina; her father Cheikh Oumar; and her brothers Ousmane and Mamadou.

THE CLASS OF 2019

CHRISTOPHER ANDY

RATSIMBAZAFY-DA SILVA '19

Christopher died May 16, 2026, at the age of 29.

Born Sept. 5, 1996, in Prague, Czech Republic, he attended the Collegiate School in New York City, where he was the editor-in-chief of the *French Literary Publication*, president of Model UN, and a member of the cross country, track and field, and soccer teams. At Princeton, he earned a degree in politics and was a member of the Black Student Union, African Student Association, Art Museum Student Advisory Board, men's club soccer team, and Ivy Club.

Christopher earned a master's degree in data science, statistics, and machine learning from the University of California, Berkeley, in 2023. He most recently worked as an investment data scientist at the Carlyle Group.

An avid linguist and traveler, his friends fondly remember his ability to effortlessly flip between English, French, Portuguese, and Malagasy, his love for Arsenal football club and the New York Knicks, and his unparalleled ability to uplift spirits.

Christopher was a loving and steadfast

partner to Marley Pavlin since 2020. He is survived by Marley; his sisters Soraya, Monica, Nya, Bruna, Vanessa, and Chailena; his mother and father; and countless friends.

GRADUATE ALUMNI

CARL O. BOWIN *60

At the age of 92, Carl died March 30, 2026, in Falmouth, Mass.

Born Jan. 30, 1934, in Los Angeles, Carl received a bachelor of science degree in geology from the California Institute of Technology in 1955 and a master's degree from Northwestern University in 1957. With a dissertation on mapping the geology of the Dominican Republic, Carl earned a Ph.D. at Princeton in 1960.

In 1961, Carl took a job at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in the Department of Geology and Geophysics. He measured and mapped the gravity anomaly field of the Earth. Through gravity he developed a model of the Earth's inner structure.

Carl's early research and gravity measuring required computer systems to process the data. He is regarded as the first person to have placed a computer system on a ship. The Navy later turned to him for guidance in doing the same.

Carl is survived by his wife of 69 years, Jean; their four children, Claire, Adria, Bret, and Dara; five grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

EVERETT C. DADE *60

Everett died April 8, 2026, in Media, Pa., at the age of 88.

Born Oct. 5, 1937, in Dover, N.H., Everett graduated from Harvard in 1958 and earned a Ph.D. in mathematics from Princeton in 1960. Under the direction of O. Timothy O'Meara, Everett wrote a dissertation entitled "Multiplicity and Monoidal Transformations."

Everett spent his career as a professor of mathematics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His work focused on finite groups and representation theory, and he introduced the Dade isometry and Dade's conjecture.

The Dade isometry is an isometry from class functions on a subgroup H with support on a subset K of H to class functions on a Group G. It was introduced as a generalization and simplification of an isometry used by Feit and Thompson in their proof of the odd order theorem. Dade's conjecture relates the numbers of characters of blocks of a finite group to the numbers of characters of blocks of local subgroups.

Everett is survived by his wife, Catherine Doleans-Dade; and daughter Julia.

JOHN G. CRAGG *65

John died Nov. 5, 2025, of cancer in Delta, British Columbia.

He was born in Toronto May 3, 1937, and earned his undergraduate degree from McGill in 1958.

John studied economics at Trinity College, Cambridge and earned another undergraduate degree in 1960. In 1965, he earned a Ph.D. in economics from Princeton. While in graduate school he married Olga, who was also studying for a Ph.D.

John's first academic position was as an assistant professor at the University of Chicago. After three years, he moved to the University of British Columbia (UBC), where he was appointed full professor in 1972. His scholarly interests and publications were in econometrics, financial economics, and social programs. Under John's tutelage as chair, the economics department grew. His desire to make a difference in society was fulfilled when he became director of research, prices, and income commission in Ottawa from 1969 to 1972.

During his time at UBC, John enjoyed sabbaticals in Oxford, London, Paris and Aix-en-Provence. He retired from UBC at 65 when compulsory retirement was mandatory, which he described as being "fired."

John is survived by his wife of 62 years, Olga; sons Michael '86 and Philip; and grandchildren Max, Nina, Kobe, Jack, and Reid.

JAMES F. HITCHCOCK *65

Jim died of Parkinson's disease in St. Louis, July 14, 2025. He was 87.

Born Feb. 13, 1938, in St. Louis, Jim graduated from St. Louis University in 1960 with a degree in philosophy and a minor in history. He earned a Ph.D. in history from Princeton in 1965. His dissertation topic was "Popular Religion in Elizabethan England."

After Princeton, Jim taught at St. John's University in New York for a year before joining the faculty of St. Louis University in 1966. He remained at St. Louis until his retirement in 2013.

The history of the Catholic Church was the principal focus of Jim's research and teaching. He was the author of 12 books, including *The Supreme Court and Religion in American Life* and *History of the Catholic Church: From the Apostolic Age to the Third Millennium*. An expert on church history, his articles and syndicated columns were a fixture in Catholic magazines and newspapers.

Jim was predeceased by his wife, Helen, in 2014. He is survived by his daughters Alexandra, Consuelo, Hilary, and Louisa, and six grandchildren.

THOMAS J. COURCHENE *67

Tom died Nov. 4, 2025, in Montreal.

Born Sept. 16, 1940, in Wakaw, Saskatchewan, Tom completed

undergraduate studies at the University of Saskatchewan in 1962 and earned a Ph.D. in economics from Princeton in 1967. He did postgraduate work at the University of Chicago.

From 1965 to 1988, Tom was professor of economics at the University of Western Ontario. His interests were monetary policy, financial institutions, fiscal policy, economic regionalism, energy policy, trade, and migration. He was chair of the Ontario Economic Council, senior fellow at the C.D. Howe Institute, and a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

Tom went to Queen's University in 1988 to serve as the inaugural director of the school of policy studies (SPS), a central hub in a national policy network of academics and policymakers. He was director of the John Deutsch Institute, director of the Institute of Intergovernmental Relations, and a senior scholar at the Institute for Research on Public Policy in Montreal.

Twice Tom won the Donner Prize for the best Canadian book in public policy. The subjects were *The Social, Fiscal and Federal Evolution of Ontario* and *Indigenous Nationals, Canadian Citizens*.

Tom is survived by his wife, Margie; children Rob, Teri, and John; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

EHSAN AHMED *87

Ehsan died Nov. 30, 2025, in Palm Springs, Calif.

He was born in Washington, D.C., June 13, 1958, and completed his undergraduate studies at Columbia in 1980. He earned a Ph.D. in Romance languages and literature from Princeton in 1987. The title of his dissertation was "A Crisis of Lyric Identity: French Humanist Responses (1533-1552)."

Ehsan held faculty positions at Tulane, Stanford, and Louisiana State before embarking on a 23-year career at Michigan State University in 1995. At MSU, he taught all levels of French language, culture, and literature, and supported the classics program by teaching Latin. His publications include "Clément Marot: The Mirror of the Prince," and "The Law and the Song: Hebraic, Christian, and Pagan Revivals in Sixteenth Century France." Before retiring from MSU in 2018, he focused on the French philosopher Michel de Montaigne.

Ehsan is survived by his longterm partner Dennis Hall; brother, Omar; sisters Shirin and Nasim; niece Nancy; and nephew Alexander.

MOLLY C. ROBINSON *00

While undergoing cancer treatment, Molly died from an unexpected infection, March 17, 2026, in Portland, Ore. She was 56.

Born Oct. 1, 1970, in San Diego, Molly

began college as a science major at the University of Minnesota, then moved to Belgium, where she earned a bachelor's degree in foreign languages at the Catholic University of Louvain in 1994. At Princeton, Molly earned a Ph.D. in Romance languages and literature in 2000. Her specialization was medieval French literature. Her dissertation, "Old French Traditions of Place and Belonging: Roland, Alexis, and Tristan" was written under the guidance of Karl Uitti.

After holding teaching positions at Bryn Mawr and the University of Alabama, in 2004 Molly joined the faculty of Lewis & Clark College. She taught courses in French literature and was director of the teaching excellence program. As part of the Lewis & Clark's Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program, Molly taught a course, *Cry of Freedom: Reflections in World Literature of the Longing to be Free*, to incarcerated individuals at the Columbia River Correctional Institution.

Molly is survived by her husband, Joel Pompeje; her children, Atticus and Miriam, and their father, Gordon; her parents, Margie and Steve; and her siblings, Joe and Meg.

KELLAM M. CONOVER *10

Kellam fell to his death on Nov. 24, 2025, while climbing Mount Cook, New Zealand's highest mountain. He was 44.

Born July 20, 1981, he earned a bachelor's degree from Swarthmore in 2003, then completed his Ph.D. in classics at Princeton in 2010. His dissertation was "Bribery in Classical Athens." In addition to knowledge of Greek and Latin, Kellam was conversant in French, Italian, and German.

After Princeton, Kellam attended Stanford Law School, earning a J.D. degree in 2013. He clerked for Raymond C. Fisher in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in Pasadena. He was an associate at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher before joining the Washington, D.C. firm King & Spalding in 2023.

Kellam's legal expertise included defending securities actions, cases involving constitutional law, bankruptcy, patents, and administrative procedure. He wrote briefs in cases before the U.S. Supreme Court and federal appeals courts. He was named one of the best lawyers to look out for in 2023.

At the time of his death, Kellam was reworking his dissertation on corruption in Athens in the hope that lessons learned from that time might help in modern society.

Kellam is survived by his mother, Pam Conover, and her wife, Sue Estroff.

Graduate memorials are prepared by the APGA.

*Undergraduate memorials appear for John H. Brown '52 *59, Donlyn R. Lyndon '57 *59, and Daniel G. Drath '59 *62.*

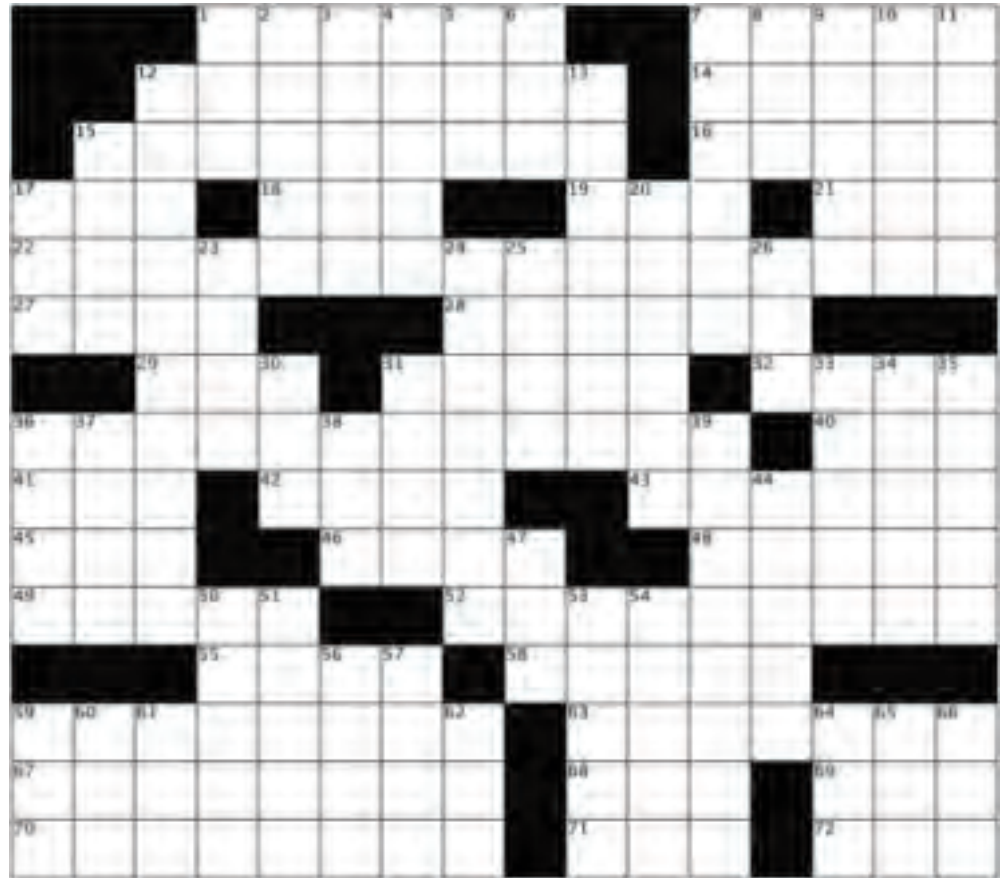


BY STELLA (DAILY) ZAWISTOWSKI '00

This Is the Tiger's Day!

ACROSS

1. Color often worn on Halloween ... or by Princetonians year-round
7. Color paired with 1-Across
12. Lifeguard's purview
14. Eagle's home
15. Most murky
16. Parts of Maslow's hierarchy
17. Squeezy snake
18. Ore. neighbor
19. When a plane should leave, for short
21. Once known as
22. Cotsen ____ (Princeton collection for kids that opened on Halloween 1997)
27. Bent Spoon order
28. "Just watch me!"
29. Body design, for short
31. F. ____ Fitzgerald 1917
32. Natters on
36. Portmanteau that describes University celebrations in late October
40. "Who ____?" (Saints fans' chant)
41. "That had to hurt!"
42. Scully Center scans: Abbr.
43. Use the backspace key
45. "... a right jolly old ____"
46. Verdi song, say
48. Model-making wood
49. Player in six World Cups
52. University facility that reopened to the public on Halloween 2025
55. Tony winner Leslie ____ Jr.
58. South American "Land of Poets"
59. University-community orchestral group that performs a spooky music concert for Halloween
63. Some winter outerwear
67. Belief in the best
68. Bodybuilder Ferrigno



69. The "B" in "EEB," for short
70. What a thick book might be called
71. Tax collectors: Abbr.
72. Hog's home

DOWN

1. Tic-tac-toe win
2. 18 holes
3. Tree with toothy leaves
4. Lacking in sophistication
5. Test taken by Graduate School applicants, for short
6. Some students at the E-Quad
7. Cozy places to stay
8. *Highest 2 Lowest* director Spike
9. Jadwin Gym, for example
10. Beverage often served on Halloween
11. Author Ken
12. Bringers of suits
13. Had dinner at 11, say
15. Pacific salmon variety

17. Email option
20. Like some eyelashes and windows
23. Lacking in budgetary excess
24. Cyprus's capital
25. Flat-bottomed barge
26. *Succession* family name
30. Channel for old films
31. Risotto recipe verb
33. *Someone Like You* singer
34. Cooked option at Ajiten
35. Cook with vapor
36. Work by Monica Youn '93
37. John Nash *50, to Russell Crowe
38. Phase of a creative career
39. Ill-defined
44. PULSe Laboratory apparatus
47. Rainbow's shape
50. Up to now
51. Beloved celebrities
53. Indian meal served on a tray
54. Undergraduate's secondary pursuit
56. "Will do!"

57. Umami-packed paste
59. *Ice Age* sloth
60. Marriage promise
61. Prefix with "noir" or "natal"
62. Current unit, for short
64. Crunch muscles
65. Raspberry Pi pack, for example
66. Tofu's makeup

STUMPED?

Scan the QR code or go online to paw.princeton.edu to try an interactive version of the puzzle and reveal answers.



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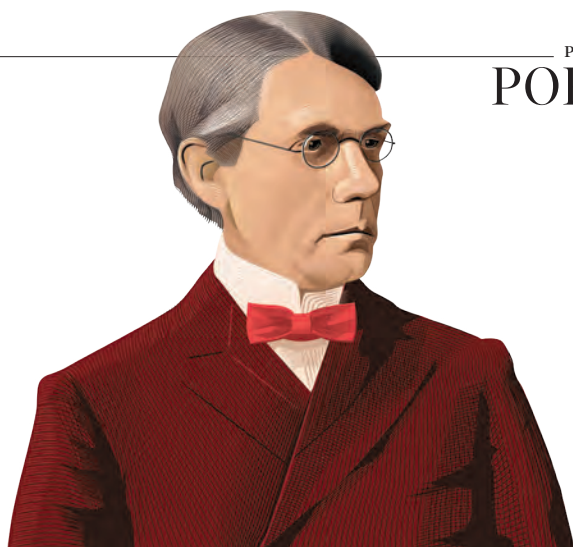


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FRANCIS LANDEY PATTON

He Rode Off Into the Sunset Shortly After Wild West Riot

BY HARRISON BLACKMAN '17

ON MAY 15, 1899, the Wild West came to Princeton — at least, in the form of “Pawnee Bill’s Historic Wild West Show.” The show’s ringmaster, Major Gordon William Lillie, earned his “Pawnee Bill” nickname as a translator to Pawnee Native Americans while serving in the more famous wild west show organized by Buffalo Bill Cody. Lillie’s spinoff was a traveling circus of more than 1,000 performers; according to historian Jacob S. Dorman in his book *The Princess and the Prophet*, it included Mexican and Argentinian cowboys and members of the Cheyenne and Sioux peoples.

The circus planned to parade down Nassau Street in advance of its main show that evening. However, 700 Princeton students were ready to ambush them. At the time, Dorman explained, Princeton Township had an “unwritten law” forbidding touring parades, and the students intended to enforce this tradition. The disruption began with a bang, when a Princetonian tossed a firecracker beneath a wagon, causing the horses leading the wagon to take off in fear.

The disorder only escalated, with the students slinging eggs at the procession and the cowboys and Native Americans firing blanks into the crowd. “Some of the Mexican or South American cowboys unslung their bolas and used these

with great effect,” *The New York Times* reported. Several students were injured in the mayhem; the cowboys, rushing the crowd on horseback, also trampled a Black laborer named Elwood Dillon, cracking his skull, though reports failed to elaborate on his fate.

As the dust settled, University President Francis Landey Patton was left with the unenviable task of restoring order. The Bermuda-born Presbyterian theologian gathered the student body for an emergency meeting at 5 p.m. “After gazing at them through his glasses,” Thomas Jefferson Wertenbaker wrote in his history of the University, “he rebuked them for their unprovoked attack on the circus and forbade them to attend the performance in the evening.”

However, the following day *The Daily Princetonian* played down the violence in an editorial, attributing the events to “horseplay” on the part of a few “practical jokers,” reflecting a student culture that was dangerously “virile” and unserious under the lax and permissive leadership of Patton, per Wertenbaker’s assessment.

An old-school religious scholar with a snarky attitude, Patton had always been an odd choice for president during a period when Princeton was transitioning from the classics-and-religion-based curriculum of the College of New Jersey to its 1896 rechristening as Princeton

University, an institution where in addition to the humanities, students could pursue the sciences and soon, the trustees hoped, graduate study.

During Patton’s term, football had become a mania among the all-male student body, and the eating clubs had grown from a minor alternative to the campus refectory into a true social cartel, with new opulent mansions mushrooming on Prospect Avenue every year.

To his credit, Patton’s administration adopted Princeton’s famously rigorous Honor Code in 1893. Other attempts at reform were less successful. Though Patton tried to ban hazing on campus, students rebranded their practices as “mild hazing,” whatever that distinction meant.

Not helping was Patton’s lack of drive in having Princeton live up to its new “University” status, obstructing significant curriculum reform while being uninterested in maintaining academic standards. His nonchalant attitude toward his poor administrative abilities was summed up by his saying, “It is better to have come and loafed, than never to have come at all.”

For the group of faculty reformers, the 1899 Pawnee Bill incident was just another indicator of Princeton heading in the wrong direction, and by 1902 a contingent led by Woodrow Wilson 1879 and Graduate School Dean Andrew West 1874 conspired to remove Patton from office by taking over some of the president’s administrative responsibilities. Patton agreed to step down in exchange for a buyout of \$31,500; the sum, adjusted for inflation, would be worth approximately \$1 million today. Though Wilson was promptly elected to replace him, that same year Patton deftly pivoted into the presidency of the nearby Princeton Theological Seminary.

Upon Patton’s 1913 retirement from the seminary, ironically West, one of the architects of Patton’s downfall, presented the deposed president with an honorary doctorate. Patton lived out the rest of his days in Bermuda, his humor as sharp as ever. When asked if he had any connection with Princeton, Patton joked that yes, he was “president of Princeton University — once removed.” **P**



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