

EVERGREEN

The Evergreen State College Magazine

Fall 2008



Opening
DOORS
with International Study

EDUCATING GLOBAL LEADERS

Colleges across the country are recognizing the importance of international education. Not surprisingly, Evergreen's students have long known the value of study abroad, and Evergreen's unique structure makes it comparatively easy for students. When travel is built into a coordinated studies program, students can study abroad in the company of their faculty without worrying about missing other classes.



I had a chance to see this myself last March, as I joined Hirsh Diamant's Silk Roads program in China. I had the opportunity to spend some time with colleagues at Shaanxi Normal University and Zhejiang Normal University. I fulfilled a lifelong dream to see the famous Terracotta Warriors. More importantly, I had a chance to spend nine days with an extraordinary group of students as we learned from Hirsh, from our Chinese hosts, and from each other. Over the course of that short trip, the group's discussions about cross-cultural education and communication were wide-ranging and profound.

I returned from China more certain than ever that study abroad should be available to all students. Evergreen's curriculum is well suited to this work. The challenge now is to make sure that all students get the financial support they need to take advantage of these opportunities. Evergreen's alumni and friends, through their ongoing support of the Annual Fund, are helping to ensure our students are prepared to meet the challenges of our global society.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Thomas L. Purce".

Thomas L. "Les" Purce
President



Hirsh Diamant (left) with the Silk Roads program in China.

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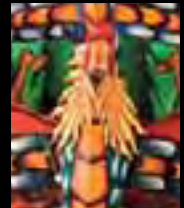
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Lunar New Year Festival 2008

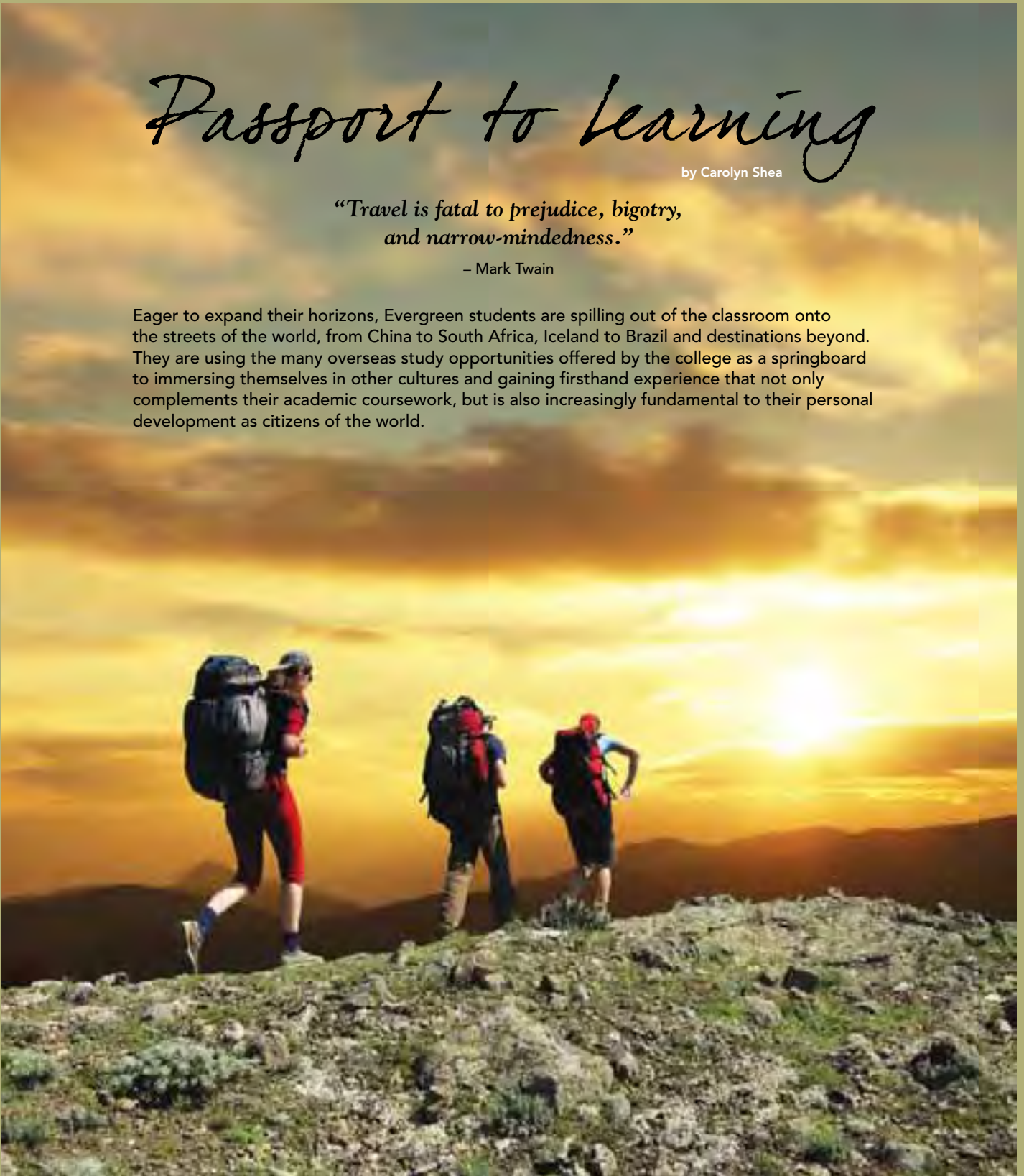
Passport to Learning

by Carolyn Shea

*“Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry,
and narrow-mindedness.”*

– Mark Twain

Eager to expand their horizons, Evergreen students are spilling out of the classroom onto the streets of the world, from China to South Africa, Iceland to Brazil and destinations beyond. They are using the many overseas study opportunities offered by the college as a springboard to immersing themselves in other cultures and gaining firsthand experience that not only complements their academic coursework, but is also increasingly fundamental to their personal development as citizens of the world.



Evergreen has long embraced a commitment to promoting internationalization in its curriculum. As a major part of this effort, the college actively encourages students to study abroad, recognizing the value of gaining global perspectives, acquiring added cultural and language skills, studying unique phenomena, learning through service to communities in foreign countries, and bridging theory and reality. The college provides ample avenues for obtaining international experience: through coordinated study programs, consortium programs, or individual learning and internship contracts. It also supports students throughout the process with a dedicated International Programs and Services office, which provides guidance and information about all things travel-related, from planning a trip and applying for visas to dealing with emergencies and weathering reverse cultural shock when they return home.

Currently, eight percent of Evergreen's student body opts to take advantage of study-abroad opportunities, a higher percentage than at any other four-year state institution of higher learning in Washington—higher even than the overall U.S. college population, which stands at about five percent. Last year, nearly 350 students journeyed to points around the globe in the pursuit of knowledge. Nearly half went with academic programs that had a foreign travel component, such as America Abroad, which covered American studies, literature, history, anthropology and international studies—then culminated in internships and independent research in more than a dozen countries, including Thailand, Guatemala and Oman.

Eric Stein, an anthropologist and an America Abroad faculty member, sees "study abroad as a meaningful way to question the core values that frame our own cultural perceptions, through face-to-face encounters with people living in other places that hold different cultural values. This may mean that one comes to realize, for example, the constraints—or benefits—of American individualism through living in places that emphasize communalism. It could also mean challenging our cultural perceptions of others and learning how to observe and recognize how others live, in their own terms."

As the world's people, nations and economies become more interconnected, international experience becomes more of an asset. For students, study abroad ranks among their best, most memorable and enriching experiences, shaped by new people, new explorations, and new knowledge that help open their eyes to new possibilities.

By The Numbers

Greeners Abroad

- Number of Evergreen programs that integrated studies abroad in 2007-08: 6
- Number in 2008-09: 9
- Number of students who participated in studies abroad in 2007-08: 345
- Number of Benjamin A. Gilman Study Abroad Scholarships awarded to Evergreen students in spring 2008: 12
- Number of Gilman awards made nationally: 400
- Total amount of Gilman scholarship awards made to Evergreen students in Spring 2008: \$54,500
- Number of students who undertake independent learning and internship contracts overseas: more than 150
- Number of service-oriented overseas internships in 2007-08: 75
- Number of study-abroad partner programs and exchanges with which Evergreen cooperates: 17
- Number of international places and themes from which students can choose: 300+
- Number of Evergreen units involved in the Crisis Management Team for issues involving students, faculty and staff studying abroad: 8
- Number of study-abroad information workshops offered on campus each year: 35

Slam in the City

by Carolyn Shea



Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

● Claire Sammons - May 2, 2008

"I live in an old apartment, where the staircase railing comes up to my knee and the hardwood floors roll and twist with age...At night I hear the pinging and ponging of ping-pong games at the pub below, and in the morning the classic tunes from ice-cream trucks as they leave their nearby headquarters. I live on Bedford Ave, in Williamsburg. It's an oasis of brick buildings, thrift stores, dimly lit bars, expensive organic grocery stores, and ironically clad youngsters. Hipster paradise, painfully hip. The people watching does provide material for writing, though the ice-cream trucks get a bit old."

Last spring, 17 Evergreen students took a cross-country plunge into Manhattan's effervescent literary scene for six weeks with Leonard Schwartz's field study program, Poetry New York. Student Claire Sammons traveled to New York City for the program and stayed on for two months afterward as an intern with Steve Clay, founder and director of Granary Books, a unique publisher specializing in poetry, book arts and preservation of manuscripts and rare books by contemporary writers and artists.

While stationed in the city—a global center for the book publishing industry—Schwartz's group of aspiring writers convened every day at the Bowery Poetry Club, a popular café and performance space on the Lower East Side, using it as a home base for classroom work and readings, as well as the locale for seeing other artists, both established and up-and-coming.

● Claire Sammons - June 26, 2008

"We held class at the Bowery Poetry Club and did everything that normal bibliophilic students would do; read books, discussed said books, and wrote books. Or at least dreamt about writing books; in the meantime, we wrote our own fetal poems. But we came here to do what normal students don't usually get to do: interact beyond the stale context of the book to meet and collaborate with those abstract ideas that are the writers and poets themselves.

This, I think, is the most important part of the class: to demystify the role of the poet, to squint our eyes and see through the glowing cloud that surrounds celebrities and discover, lo and behold, they're just other humans. Coming to New York we saw these abstracted figures as people; we were able to meet them and even collaborate with a few. When one's idea of an author or poet is limited to his writing, it is easy to turn that person into a two-dimensional object, something to be dissected and analyzed. To observe the writer actually reading his work in person, or better still, to hold a conversation with him is a more valuable experience than any lecture hall could give, simply because it is real."

During the program, the students saw up close how the business of literature operates by visiting numerous publishers, including Farrar, Straus & Giroux, New Directions, Ugly Duckling Presse, Factory School Books, and Seven Stories Press. They called on the literary agent Violaine Huisman and dropped into the downtown offices of The Academy of American Poets, the preeminent U.S. organization dedicated to promoting the art of poetry through such ventures as National Poetry Month and its literary journal *American Poet*.

They also met with several Evergreen alumni who are employed in the publishing field. Max Heller '06 works at George Braziller Publishers, and is also working on a novel, an essay collection, and an art book. Michael Barron '06, assistant editor at New Directions publishers, recently edited *We Meet*, a new collection of writing and artwork by the poet Kenneth Patchen. Holly Melgard '08 works as a production assistant at *Bomb* magazine, and has received a fellowship to the University at Buffalo's prestigious Ph.D. program in poetics.

According to Schwartz, Poetry New York's goal was twofold: To gain exposure to the "bohemian literary adventure" still alive in the city, as well as the world of poets, writers, editors, and translators that pursue it. "At the same time," he says, "New York is that most highly professionalized of cities, as pertains to books and book publishing, too, and I wanted students to come away with a sense of what it might mean to see themselves as professionally involved with words. As a matter of fact, these two projects, one based in passion and the other in commitment, are deeply intertwined."

● Claire Sammons - May 25, 2008

"[As part of my internship] I recently dug through several files of correspondence between [New York School poets] Ted Berrigan and Ron Padgett. I told Steve later that going through the personal libraries and letters of or involving the likes of Anne Waldman, Joe Brainard, Allen Ginsberg, Jack Kerouac, Robert Creeley, Ted Berrigan, and Ron Padgett would be like a history major sipping tea with Napoleon while George Washington's in the kitchen making a casserole. Reading these poets' works can be done anywhere on earth (provided you can bring a book and have enough light to read) but only here can you see it all going and doing. To shake someone's hand, have a conversation, attend a reading, interact; this is why I came here." 🐕

▼ Read more of Claire's blog and see photos of their journey at www2.evergreen.edu/blogsstudentssamcla29/



Connecting East and West along the Silk Roads

by Carolyn Shea



Jakey Lind

In 353 A.D., China's most celebrated calligrapher, a sage named Wang Xizhi, held a springtime party for more than three dozen of his literati friends. Sitting along the banks of a stream at the Orchid Pavilion, a scenic garden located in the city of Shaoxing, the partygoers spontaneously composed poetry while drinking wine from cups floating by on lotus leaves. During the revelry, called the Elegant Gathering, the calligrapher created his impromptu masterpiece, the *Lan Ting Xu*, or "Preface to the Orchid Pavilion," that introduced the collection of 37 poems produced that day.

Inspired by this historic event, in March 2008, faculty member Hirsh Diamant, 19 Evergreen students and community members, and college president Les Purce and his wife, Jane Sherman, sat by the very same brook, and penned their own off-the-cuff poems, *sans alcohol*. President Purce wrote:

The joy of learning,
The joy of youth,
The joy of Spring,
The joy of possibilities.

The reenactment of the Elegant Gathering took place during the group's three-week journey through China, a highlight of Diamant's yearlong interdisciplinary program, *Children and Education: a Silk Roads Perspective*. "The program focused on how to approach education from nontraditional perspectives," he explains. "We looked at what other cultures can teach the U.S. about education and human development." In particular, the students looked at models that foster creativity, concentrating on the importance of art, stories and play in the education of children. They also bridged theory and practice by producing their own art, becoming involved in local events, like Olympia's Procession of the Species, and volunteering in community service activities such as assisting teachers in area elementary schools.

As with the original Silk Roads, the ancient network of trade routes linking Europe and Asia, travel was a central component of the program. In Diamant's contemporary adaptation, Silk Roads serves as a metaphor for modern-day international studies emphasizing peaceful connections between different peoples of the world and openness to new ideas, culture and commerce, with the added dimensions of advanced technology and a globalized economy.

Students unable to go abroad took excursions closer to home, but all contributed to a wiki called, "Letters from China and Other Travels," in which they offered accounts of their explorations, with the intent of reaching a wider audience.

Before embarking on their trip, the class reflected on the teachings of Confucius, the great Chinese thinker and social philosopher, who expressed the importance of experiential learning in his famous aphorism: "I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand."

By seeing and doing, senior Jakey Lind gained newfound direction from his overseas odyssey. "I had never done anything besides short jaunts into Canada," he said. "In a normal year, I don't experience things half as extraordinary as I did every day in China." He is now enrolled in the Changing China program, which examines China's rising role as a global power in the context of the predominant cultural traits it has inherited from the past.

"Coming back to Evergreen was a harsh turnaround," he says, "particularly because class started the day after we returned, at what felt like the middle of the night. My experiences in China began to pay dividends immediately though. I saw our Chinese cultural studies with increased clarity, and the frame of reference I now have when studying China is very helpful."

Lind soon got the chance to pass on his new knowledge. "In Hirsh's class, we volunteered in local schools, and in my case, I was in a fourth-grade classroom at L.P. Brown Elementary," he said. "The teacher encouraged me to give a presentation to her class, which I envisioned being something in the range of five to ten minutes. To my surprise, the kids were super interested and my presentation, which only had 10 pictures, ended up lasting 45 minutes."

When Lind graduates, the Whidbey Island native foresees a future shaped by his Silk Roads adventure. He is already formulating plans to return to the country and thinking about concentrating his graduate studies in Chinese history. "I'm planning to apply to at least one Chinese studies program," he said, "and if forced to make a decision right now, I believe I would choose China as my area of focus in a more general history or area studies program."

On the program's wiki, Lind noted, "I consider the time I spent in China to be among the coolest and most important experiences of my entire life. In my studies, I have focused primarily on history, particularly Eurasian history, so this trip was an incredible chance to encounter what I've spent so much time studying."

History truly came alive for Lind in China. At the program's streamside poetry session, which commemorated the Elegant Gathering held more than 16 centuries before in the Orchid Pavilion, he wrote:

Ancient Lan Ting,
Where great scholars once composed,
Retains its beauty and tranquility,
And serves the same purpose for us
Today, as for these poets of distant past. 🐯



Silk Roads students take a morning walk with their Buddhist teacher, the Abbot of Yongfu Temple, located in Hangzhou, Zhejiang province.

HELPING THE SICK IN SOUTH AFRICA

by Carolyn Shea



Photo: Katherine B. Turner, photography intern



Paul in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

FEBRUARY 1

As I write this, it's eight days almost to the minute until I step on the plane to Africa. For me, who has barely been to a place without a flushing toilet, it's a big step.

Last February, five classmates from Evergreen's America Abroad program headed to South Africa to volunteer with local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and do research related to their

community involvement. Faculty member Sam Schrager accompanied them, spending time with each of the organizations where his students worked.

One student, Paul Gerstmann '08 (left), spent three months as an intern with the Strelitzia Trust AIDS Hospice. South Africa has the highest number of HIV-positive people in the world. Out of a population of 47 million, an estimated 5.7 million are living with the virus that causes AIDS. Nearly a thousand South Africans—both young and old—die each day from the disease. More than a million of the country's children have been orphaned by the pandemic, which has profoundly impacted virtually every facet of South African society.

The hospice is a small rural clinic nestled in the foothills of the Drakensberg Mountains in KwaZulu-Natal, a predominantly Zulu province, which has been hit hardest by HIV/AIDS, with at least 40 percent of adults infected. Gerstmann has a simple answer for what motivated him to go to the hospice, which attends to the orphans, the sick, and the dying from surrounding villages: "I wanted to do worthwhile work."

February 7

As an advocate, my job will be to basically help out the AIDS Hospice by ferrying supplies and patients from the little township I'm staying in to the big city of Johannesburg. One day a week, I'll don a pair of slacks and a button-down shirt and spend a few hours in the local school, teaching kids English. I'm told I'll also teach some basic sex education. But my biggest role sounds a little peculiar: I'm helping AIDS patients get birth certificates.

Not surprisingly, the internship proved to be "a huge challenge." Gerstmann's main job was to help patients get through the often-daunting bureaucratic process necessary for obtaining identification documents like birth certificates, which are required to receive life-saving treatments and support. Medical care in the region is substandard and the logistical and socioeconomic hurdles to combating the deadly disease are high. He also faced the additional difficulty of not being fluent in the native tongue. "I learned Zulu on my feet," he says.

MARCH 9

For three weeks now I've been reading about AIDS and the Zulus, and I've been working with AIDS patients. I've seen enough sick people for a crack team of medical anthropologists.


Sofi Ntshalintshali, the founder and director of the hospice, praised Gerstmann's efforts. "He learned how to negotiate in often difficult and delicate situations to attain the information, documents or health care required," she wrote in his evaluation. "He was present to the individual's need in any moment, putting the needs of others before self. He has shown great courage in walking into a variety of situations without the knowledge, language and often support to achieve an outcome, with confidence and enthusiasm."

MARCH 12

I spent today in and out of schools. I met a principal who's terrified that if his school shows students how to use condoms, they will start having sex with everyone they can find. Then he complained to me about teen pregnancy rates.

Schools here would get more done if the teachers demonstrated how to unroll a condom. Teen pregnancy and transmission of HIV would both drop. There. Now everyone knows my politics.

It just occurred to me that I've chosen the least sexy way to study sex.

During his internship, Gerstmann lived at Cosmos Farm, which accommodates the hospice's foreign volunteers. When he could spare the time—and get Internet access—he posted to his "Greener in the Bush" blog (<http://greenerbush.blogspot.com>), and completed his final project analyzing the ways that AIDS has damaged not only the Zulus' health, but their community and culture. Gerstmann "went about his fieldwork with care and compassion" Schrager notes, and conducted "a remarkably insightful ethnographic investigation of the cultural dynamics of the AIDS epidemic in this rural area, using the experience and relationships he developed in the community." 



Drakensberg Mountains



Video outtakes by Luis Garcia;
photomontage by: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

TEACHING AND LEARNING IN Thailand

by Carolyn Shea

Luis Garcia '08, clearly recalls the photograph that ran on the front page of the September 27, 2007, issue of The New York Times: A lone monk, clad in a burgundy robe, faced a gauntlet of armed riot police blocking him from entering a pagoda in Myanmar. At the time, the country—known by most of the world as Burma—was gripped by a brutal military crackdown against peaceful pro-democracy groups and Buddhist monks protesting the political repression and economic hardships that had been imposed on the populace. “That image stayed with me, not just because it was powerful, but because it was incomplete,” he says.



Like so many others, Garcia had limited knowledge about what was going on in Burma. What he did know came mainly from hearing about a trip the singer Ani DiFranco made to the region a few years earlier to raise awareness about the plight of the Burmese people, who have suffered under six decades of military rule by successive regimes with poor human rights records. More than a million have fled to other countries in search of work and asylum. In Thailand alone, about 150,000 refugees live in nine overcrowded camps. Some of these individuals, who met DiFranco, told her they were heartened by her visit because it gave them hope that the people of the world would not forget them.

Garcia was a senior when Burma was headlining the news. He had moved from New York to finish his undergraduate degree at Evergreen with the ambition to study abroad before he graduated. At the end of his first year at the college, he took the two-credit course, Preparing for Study Abroad. The class helped Garcia prepare his application essays for a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, which supports studies abroad. "I didn't know exactly where I would be going, but I knew I could never go if I didn't get some sort of funding," he says.

In his last year, he enrolled in the America Abroad program, which offered training in ethnographic fieldwork and the chance to undertake community-based study overseas. "September came and class began and I still didn't know where I would be going," he recalls. Then one of his teachers, Eric Stein, spoke about an opportunity for students in the class to work at a school in one of the refugee camps on the Thai-Burmese border. "That's when the images of the red-robed monk and Ani's trip came back to me and I decided pretty immediately that I would throw my efforts into trying to go," says Garcia.


In January, Garcia learned that he had won a Gilman scholarship, and a month later, he was on a plane to Thailand, along with five other classmates, two of whom were also Gilman award winners. For the next 10 weeks, they lived among refugees in the Ban Nai Soi camp, eight miles from the Burmese border. Garcia taught at the Ban Nai Soi Community Learning Center (www.naisoi.org), a three-year-old high school started and operated by refugees.

Founded by Kyaw Hla Sein, a Burmese refugee who had once studied overseas himself, the school was created to provide a better future for the next generation of families in exile in the Mae Hong Son province, where Ban Nai Soi and other camps are located. Its curriculum focuses on the English, Burmese, and Thai languages, as well as organic farming, science, computers and math. Refugee children can attend Thai primary schools but the Royal Thai Government does not admit them to Thai high schools. Students who complete three years of study at the learning center earn a high school certificate that allows them to attend university within the Thai system.

"Once we got to the school, we stayed in a bamboo hut that was built for us by our students' parents two weeks before we arrived," Garcia says. "While we were there, we visited many of their villages. On our first night, there was a big festival to celebrate the completion of a new pagoda at the Ban Nai Soi Temple. There was food and a talent show that many of our future students were in, singing and dancing."

Garcia recorded video interviews of the school's founder, his daughter, who is a graduate, and its head teacher. He and his fellow Greeners also "talked to everyone we could to try and grope for some understanding: NGO (non-governmental organization) workers, Thai people, Burmese people, restaurant owners, former and current rebel army soldiers, judges, and of course, our students and the migrant workers who lived and worked at the school."

One of his fondest memories was of his students' graduation. "I remember how proud the kids and their parents looked and how we set tables up right under the graduation tent and ate and drank with our students, their parents and friends of the school under a red full moon with lines of fire cutting through the mountains around us," he says.

"America Abroad was the hardest program or class of any kind I took at the college. I'm glad I was able to finish my BA that way. Part of what I would like to accomplish now that I'm back is to tell the stories of the people I met there, add them to a few more people's conceptions of history. By sharing people's stories, they are saved from non-existence in the historical views of the people who stand to be able to improve their futures." 

ICELAND CALLING

by Carolyn Shea

Iceland, home to the ancient Vikings, beckoned Aaron Krogh from an early age. First, when he was in the fifth grade and read an article about the tiny volcanic island-nation at the edge of the Arctic Circle. “Ever since then, I wanted to go,” he says.

When Krogh was a bit older, his uncle sent him an album by the country’s most famous cultural export, Björk, and he became hooked on her music and even more curious about “the land of fire and ice.”

Then, when he came to Evergreen, his roommate turned out to have grown up between Seattle and Reykjavík, the world’s northernmost capital.

Last year, the Evergreen senior got his chance to reach his desired destination, after enrolling in Stephanie Kozick’s City Life program, which examined the urban experience from a variety of different angles. Academic work done by the class in the fall and spring quarters led to field study in the spring, with each student selecting one city—anywhere in the world—to visit and research. Krogh’s choice? Reykjavík, of course.

For six weeks, he lived with the family of his roommate, the son of Villi Knudsen, a cinematographer well known in Iceland for capturing historic volcanic eruptions on film. Tourists from around the world flock to Knudsen’s small home theatre, a Reykjavík attraction called Red Rock Cinema, to watch daily screenings of his dramatic footage in *The Volcano Show*. One day while Krogh was there, a woman from his hometown of Mason City, Iowa, came to see Knudsen’s presentation.



Iceland, where Aaron Krogh pursued his City Life project, has been called the Land of Frost and Fire. A volcanic region mantled with perpetual snows, it is the birthplace of the word geyser (left).

Krogh stayed in Reykjavik, Iceland’s capital and cultural center. Its brightly colored buildings give the city a storybook quality.

Krogh kept an extensive journal during his stay, which was mainly focused on the city, but included forays into the countryside. Smaller than Kentucky, Iceland offers an array of extraordinary landscapes that aren't too far afield: fjords and glaciated valleys, lava fields and icefields, spouting geysers and volcanic craters. Many of these sights pop up in the short film Krogh produced during his trip, which includes an electronic music soundtrack and a number of interviews that thematically guide the piece. It moves from inside the Knudsen house to the city around and the shipyards beyond; then branches out into the more distant environment.

The 25-minute piece was a selection of the Olympia Film Society's *What You Got?!* youth arts festival at the Capitol Theater last June. This annual weekend event provides a space for young people to showcase their creativity at the local level through music, film, spoken word, and visual art, with the idea, coordinated by Evergreen alumnus Brendan Phillips '07, to create a permanent youth art space in Olympia.

In making the film, Krogh says, "I started out by looking at how landscapes and where people live form their sense of place and how they make it their own. It ended up being a medium for my own personal journey, an expression of my experience of place." With its sequence of stream-of-consciousness imagery, it reveals in a very realistic way the process by which, as Krogh says, "you come into a place new, figure out your place in the order of things, and orient yourself." It also allowed him to integrate a particular passion of his: working with sound.

Krogh found Iceland to be "very windy," freer of rules and regulations than the United States, and "a lot more relaxed." The people, however, "are more formal in their relationships." He loved the bakeries he frequented—"amazing pastries and cheap!"—but found the beer pricey, at \$7 to \$9 a pint. He also loved the geothermal bathing pools, which form the basis of a social scene. "Sometimes, a whole cross-section of the city would be there," he says. "Sometimes, there would be all old men there, singing to themselves. You could hear the music in their voices."

Reykjavík, the cosmopolitan heart of a metropolitan area with a population of about 200,000, has a "vibrant café culture," according to Krogh. "The coffee shops are always full of people. It's a very walkable city with people oftentimes staying out all night and businesses staying open until 6 a.m. People walk from bar to bar to bar to hear different kinds of music. Even early in the morning you can hear the music." With the near-constant midnight sun approaching, he observed one or two celebrations every week, frequently with hordes of people dressed up in costumes.

After answering the siren calls of an island more than 3,600 miles away, back in Olympia, Krogh felt empowered by his overseas experience and by making art that was connected not only to his surroundings but also to his inner life. 🐾





Creating Global Leaders

by Ann Mary Quarandillo

Kristin Hayden, a new Evergreen trustee, is dedicated to helping young people experience study abroad, as founder and executive director of OneWorld Now! – a nonprofit two-year global leadership program for high school students.

"Fewer than one percent of high school students study abroad and less than three percent of college students do. And just a tiny fraction of those are students of color and/or low-income students," Hayden explains. "We have to prepare our youth if we want to be successful as a nation and world leaders in the 21st century."

Approximately 100 students per year from eight public Seattle-area high schools participate in the weekly after-school program, which began in 2002. It offers leadership workshops, world language classes (including Arabic and Chinese), summer language camps and study abroad opportunities for underserved students.

"We take time to prepare students for study abroad, to set them up for success," says Hayden. She emphasizes that the combination of leadership and language is a powerful one. "The leadership program is essential. It gives them the framework to be open to the experience they're having and take advantage of it." The program also helps students deal with re-entry after their trips, so they can understand the reality of what they experienced abroad.

Hayden's passion for cross-cultural understanding began at age 15, when she spent a year in South Africa as a Rotary exchange student. She studied Russian in college, and lived in Moscow right before the Soviet Union dissolved. After graduation, she worked for seven years with philanthropist Bob Walsh, creator of the Goodwill Games, as international projects director, overseeing his offices in Moscow and Tbilisi, Georgia.

OneWorld Now! combines Hayden's passion for international understanding and her commitment to social justice. The nonprofit is dedicated to providing opportunities for economically challenged students, and provides scholarships for those who are eligible. "My motivation is to make change in the world," she says. "My work helps me feel like I'm part of the solution—not just pushing against the problem."

OneWorld Now! works to ensure that students remain global leaders throughout their lives. "All of our students go on to college," Hayden says, "and we continue to support them there." She is excited to join Evergreen's board, especially since increasing international education opportunities is part of the college's strategic plan. "Evergreen's model of education is very innovative and very in line with the work we do," she says. "What excites me particularly is the approach that sets students up to be responsible global citizens—we put our best foot forward to represent our country abroad."



Kristin Hayden emphasizes social entrepreneurship through OneWorld Now!'s leadership program. "My motivation is to make change in the world."

Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

Soaking in the Beat of Senegal

Blog Entry – May 28, 2008

Na nga def? That means, "How's it going?" in Wolof, a main language spoken in Senegal, where I just spent two weeks. It was probably the most amazing, surreal, and intense two weeks of my life, and it is hard to believe it is over. We stayed with a very famous Senegalese drummer named Thione Diop (pronounced "Chown Jyop") in his house, just minutes away from the Atlantic Ocean. Thione and all his friends and family are the nicest, warmest people, making us feel very safe and welcome while fully immersing us into their culture.

We did a lot of intense drumming and dancing lessons, working with Thione and his friends, who are also famous performers in Senegal. While the drumming lessons were great (each of us had our own new djembes [traditional African drums] to practice with) and the dancing was fantastic (I had never seen dancers with such incredible moves and energy), many of my favorite memories came from the really simple moments when I truly felt present in another country: watching local boys practice wrestling on the beach...taking rides in these colorfully painted, rickety, sketchy buses called "Supers" (a back wheel fell off one as we were driving to a concert in the middle of nowhere, in the middle of the night), eating the delicious food, and watching the sunset and moon rise and become full.

Senegal is a really beautiful place with a charm and magic all its own, and it was ceaselessly interesting to observe the people of Dakar go about their day-to-day interactions. While they maintain aspects of traditional culture, they have also let in a lot of influence from modern Western culture, creating a shifting and unpredictable struggle for cultural identity. I saw factory workers walking down roads alongside a man in a horse-drawn carriage. I saw beautiful women dressed in bright, full-length African outfits with matching head scarves walking next to beautiful women dressed like they were about to step into a nightclub in New York City. I saw goats standing on parked cars. And while there were great new paved roads and public transit and banks and hospitals, there was also extreme poverty and trash everywhere and suffocating air pollution...

I am most thankful that I was able to become a sponge, soaking in all the culture and the sights and sounds and smells and tastes. I gained new perspectives on my own life by interacting in theirs. For example, I was living with a much more relaxed sense of




Photo of Cameron Hostetter by: Katherine B. Turner, photography intern

time, which lowers stress and allows for more spontaneity. Also, the way we were treated to feel so honored and welcome as their guests opened my eyes to how important the relationship between guests and hosts is in building strong communities.

So many amazing things happened there, and what I have written here is just a glimpse at what turned out to be the most incredible two-week journey I could have ever hoped for. I honestly cannot imagine having a better freshman year.

Cameron Hostetter, a sophomore from Fullerton, Calif., wrapped up his first year at Evergreen in Senegal with faculty member Terry Setter and 10 other students from Setter's program, *Awakening the Dreamer, Pursuing the Dream*, co-taught with faculty member Cynthia Kennedy. The group stayed in an oceanfront village on the outskirts of Dakar, where they studied with Thione Diop, a master Senegalese drummer. Diop, who hails from a family of griots, the bards of West Africa, leads the high-energy drum ensemble Yeke Yeke, and frequently performs and teaches in the Puget Sound area.

Hostetter is back at Evergreen this fall, in Bob Leverich and Peter Impara's Green Studio program, focusing on sustainable design and sustainable communities. 

The Middle East Unfiltered

by Carolyn Shea

When Janine Gates '87 was 14, her mother gave her a tremendous gift: she whisked her off to Europe for a year. No ordinary classroom could have provided the teenager with the education she received that year. The experience forever changed the way she looked at the world.

When she became a parent herself, Gates made it a goal to someday give her own children the life-enriching gift of traveling abroad with them. So this year, she took her 18-year-old daughter Jiana and her 13-year-old son Tristan to the Middle East.

Prompted by an Evergreen summer field study class in writing, photography, and art, Gates and her children spent six weeks exploring two of humanity's cradles of civilization, Egypt and Jordan. For three of those weeks, the trio accompanied faculty member Char Simons and a group of more than a dozen students who traveled to the region to see for themselves what life was really like without the filters of mass media, government propaganda and public opinion.



In Egypt, the Gates family saw the ancient pyramids at Giza and the tombs of the pharaohs in Luxor's Valley of the Kings. They roamed the bustling streets of Cairo, the Arab world's cultural capital, which was founded in the 10th century and is now home to 6.8 million people. They met an American expatriate writer living in the city and toured the Egyptian Museum, where they viewed treasures from the Tomb of Tutankhamen and other antiquities.

In Jordan, they stayed with Bedouins in the desert of Wadi Rum and toured the rock city of Petra, one of the world's most celebrated archaeological sites. They visited the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts, a showcase for contemporary Jordanian painting, sculpture and pottery in the city of Amman. They also attended a camel race and went to a newspaper where Gates, a photographer, and the group met with a local photojournalist who showed them his images and discussed censorship and media issues in the country.

Gates had been to the region once before, in 2007, with her youngest child. Mother and son traveled with another Evergreen summer program that explored Turkey and Jordan for 21 days. "Tristan was a sponge," she said. "He soaked it all in and looked forward to going back again this year. On the latest trip, he even got to return to his favorite juice bar in Amman. The shopkeepers remembered us from our first visit and welcomed us back."

An Olympia resident, Gates took 2,000 pictures during her family's recent trip, several of which are published on her Web site (www.janinegatesphotography.com). She exhibited a selection of these during downtown Olympia's ArtsWalk held in October.



Below: Al-Azhar Park is located in the heart of Islamic Cairo. This view looks to Al-Azhar Mosque and University, the world's oldest university, founded in the 10th century, and the City of the Dead. Photo by Janine Gates.

Opposite page: Tristan Gates, 13, Jiana Gates, 18, and Janine Gates pose with a willing camel at the Giza Pyramids in Cairo, Egypt, in July 2008. Gates took her children to Egypt and Jordan for six weeks last summer.

Gates did her research before departing, which left her undeterred about traveling there—in spite of its negative image. “I’m privileged to be an American,” she says, “and I feel that Americans have an obligation to learn about the world and see how they can make it a better place. I’m doing this by educating my kids, going over there to see what’s really going on, being respectful, and helping to dispel misconceptions. We were ambassadors of peace and good will and hopefully, we succeeded in showing people we met that Americans are kind and do think and feel differently from our government. My kids now know what’s going on. Hopefully, they will be part of creating solutions for peace in the world.” 🐫



Evergreen Shines in Scholarship Competition

Luis Garcia (pg 12) was able to go to Thailand and **Lizi Martin** (pg 20) to Brazil because they each won a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship. They joined 11 others from Evergreen who received the scholarships in 2007-08 and fanned out around the globe to places as close as Mexico and Peru and as far away as Oman and Mongolia.

Evergreen routinely shines in the Gilman competition. In the 2006-07 academic year, students from 552 institutions vied for the scholarship. Greeners collected 15 awards, pushing the college to #2 on the list of schools with the highest number of Gilman winners, after the University of California, Berkeley, which got 16. Last spring, the college ranked fourth out of 603 schools across the country.

Established in 2000 to expand the number of American students with international experience, the congressionally funded Gilman program awards qualified American undergraduates up to \$5,000 to pursue academic studies abroad. The Gilman program is especially interested in encouraging students to choose non-traditional destinations, particularly those outside of Western Europe and Australia. It also aims to support students who have been traditionally underrepresented in study abroad programs.

According to Michael Clifthorne, Evergreen’s coordinator of International Programs and Services, “The Gilman awards truly make it possible for many deserving students here to fulfill dreams of studying abroad that might not be possible otherwise.”

Brazil

DANCING INTO BRAZIL'S AFRICAN SPIRIT

by Carolyn Shea

Lizi Martin '08, studied Afro-Brazilian dance for five years, but it wasn't until this past January, when she traveled to Brazil, that her understanding really took off.

Martin spent six months immersed in the culture, dance and arts of African-Brazilians. With the Council on International Educational Exchange, an Evergreen study abroad consortium partner, she initially stayed in São Paulo for a month to take intensive classes in the Portuguese language and Brazilian culture. "I got an overview that greatly helped me once I arrived in my next phase," she says. This phase took place on the northeast coast in Salvador da Bahia, a city with a predominantly black population that has been strongly shaped by traditions rooted in Africa.

While there, the Denver native stayed with a host family, "attended as many ceremonies as possible," and danced, taking an average of six classes a week in the beginning of her trip, then three per week as she became more involved in Brazilian society. She took lessons with a dancer in Salvador who owned his own studio and school and at the Universidade Federal da Bahia (Federal University of Bahia).

Martin's journey had really begun years before. As a biracial African-American, she was interested in learning more about her own identity and background. At Evergreen, she pursued independent studies and became involved in Umoja, Evergreen's student group for people of African descent. Through that, she was inspired to study U.S. history and the context in which her father, born in 1920s Georgia, and her mother, born in 1950s Ohio, came together in the 1970s to marry. "I know that as an interracial couple, they always had trouble navigating through society and as a product of their marriage, I was thrust into two worlds at the same time," she says. "My father passed down a legacy of pain and never spoke of his childhood or life experiences—possibly to shield me from the world as his little girl."

"My research focused on the pain that my father could have gone through," she explains. "My intention was to heal through understanding and respect. At the same time, I experienced some pretty intense reactions: physical and emotional. As a result, I pursued independent studies in dance therapy."



Lizi Martin

*"I didn't stick out of the crowd walking down the street like my other American friends.
It was the first time in my life that I realized how much
I did stick out in the streets of America."*

— Lizi Martin



After attending Portland Community College, where she majored in ethnic dance and received an associate's degree in 2006, Martin transferred to Evergreen. At the end of her junior year Martin studied dance therapy through an individual contract with faculty member Mukti Khanna. "I wanted to go deeper into Afro-Brazilian dance as a therapy because of the role it played in my own contract, growth and renewal," she says. She studied Candomblé, a West African-derived religion that blossomed in Brazil. Candomblé uses dance to honor different deities or orixas (pronounced or-i-shas), who represent specific aspects of life and nature. "I was guided to this style of dance by people who said I reminded them of an Afro-Brazilian deity named Oxúm (pronounced Oh-shoom)," she says. Oxúm is the Candomblé goddess of love.

In Salvador, Martin was frequently thought to be Bahian because of her skin color. "I didn't stick out of the crowd walking down the street like my other American friends. It was the first time in my life that I realized how much I did stick out in the streets of America."

However, Martin was taken aback by the poverty she witnessed among Afro-Brazilians, as well as the racial divides that existed in the country. "Their houses were like shoe boxes stacked on top of

one another. Even in the poorest parts of Denver, I had never seen such disparity," she says. "The fact that every person I met had the most positive attitude, despite their economic status, gave me strength to acknowledge my own economic prejudices. I learned another way of combating racial inequality—one that didn't involve anger."

In Brazil, the tension and anxiety Martin felt from studying slave history was lessened. "I no longer feel like a victim or a product of victims past," she says. "I have the choice to live my life in optimism. I choose to be proud of where I come from, to be proud of the choices my parents made. I am a product of their love through hardship and choose to use my opportunities to bridge two worlds together for the fulfillment of my own joy and growth. Brazil was put in my path so that I would learn the art of building social bridges within myself, locally and internationally."

Back home in Colorado, Martin works in public health education with AmeriCorps, teaching underserved pregnant women and those with newborn babies how to take care of themselves and their families. For her, it's a way to begin building those bridges in her own community.

Siberia

by Carolyn Shea



Lake Baikal

TRAILBLAZING THROUGH SIBERIA

One day, while sitting in a lecture hall, Jon Green '05 was jolted out of daydreaming “about taking a quarter off from classes and books and writing papers, and going to take a look at the world, doing some exploratory learning.” His environmental studies faculty member, Tom Rainey, was clicking through a slideshow about Siberia, telling his students about the colorful culture and scenic beauty of the Trans-Baikal region, where he had worked on conservation initiatives for more than a decade. “His stories and slides were captivating,” remembers Green. “He talked about nerpa [freshwater seal] hunters, sable farmers, World War II veterans, and lonesome, widowed babushkas.” Eventually, Rainey came to a stunning photo of Lake Baikal taken from the northern point of its biggest island, Olkhon. “I fell in love at first sight,” Green said. “I was going to Baikal.”



Jon Green

“My study abroad experience at Evergreen turned out to be the most defining experience of my professional life thus far.”

Within two months, Green was on a plane to Russia. In Moscow, he boarded the Trans-Siberian Railroad and headed 3,200 miles southeast, through five time zones and the Ural Mountain Range, into Irkutsk, Siberia, the western gateway city to Lake Baikal, a UNESCO World Heritage site known variously as the Galapagos of Siberia and the Pearl of Siberia for its rich biological diversity and magnificent setting. There, he spent spring 2004 as an intern for the Great Baikal Trail Association (GBT A), a nonprofit organization devoted to developing, maintaining, promoting, and protecting Russia’s first national trail system—some 1,500 miles in distance when completed—around the planet’s oldest and deepest freshwater lake. Rainey, now an emeritus faculty member, sponsored an independent learning contract for Green, who was assisted in reaching his destination by winning a Jessica Kelso Memorial Scholarship, which supports undergraduates who travel abroad as part of an approved course of study.

Since its founding in 2003, the GBT A has relied mainly on volunteers from around the world, who, like Green, a New Hampshire native, have fallen in love with the region and are laying the groundwork for its sustainable development through low-impact ecotourism. By introducing economic incentives for the local people to preserve their environment, the GBT A offers a better alternative to industrialism, pollution, and the destruction of natural resources, while simultaneously raising the standard of living in an economically depressed area that has a high rate of unemployment.

During his internship, Green copyedited Russian documents that had been translated into English and worked on producing the Lake Baikal Reader, which serves as a primer on the region for volunteers coming to GBT A and is posted on the Web site of a partner organization in the United States, the Tahoe-Baikal Institute, a Lake Tahoe, Calif.-based nonprofit that educates American and international students about watershed management. “Of course, we also spent a lot of time drinking tea and building relationships—international outreach, you could say—with local students, many of whom are still involved, and even employed, with GBT A,” he reports. That summer, Green volunteered for several trail-building projects, including one at the Baikal Limnological Museum in Listvyanka and several in the North Baikal region.

Three months later, Green returned to Olympia and the college, where he did a stint as a study abroad student assistant and peer advisor in the Office of International Programs, which coordinates Evergreen’s overseas learning opportunities. Through additional independent study and internships, he worked with the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition in Seattle and the Columbia Land Trust in Portland, Ore. But at the end of the school year, he returned to Russia, this time to study the impacts and on-the-ground reality of ecotourism in practice. Initially, he traveled with Robert Smurr’s summer 2005 program, Backpacking in Siberia, which included two weeks of trekking through the southern Altai Mountains near the border of Mongolia. Following this trip, he again journeyed to Lake Baikal with a small group that paddled about half of its 395-mile length in three weeks to reach the remote, unsettled “Brown Bear Coast.” With his companions, Green surveyed the coastline on behalf of the GBT A. By the time he wrote his evaluation for the summer program, he had decided to focus on building a business that would guide ecologically minded tourists to Lake Baikal, one of the natural wonders of the world, and in the process, help protect it from the damage harsher types of development would bring.

Following graduation, Green worked for several environmental groups in the Pacific Northwest, then secured a job as an exchange program coordinator for the Tahoe-Baikal Institute. After moving to the San Francisco Bay Area, he went to work for Mountain Travel Sobek, a pioneering adventure travel firm. In the meantime, he has not lost sight of his planned ecotourism venture; next summer he will independently guide—along with Smurr—his first group trip to Lake Baikal.

“My study abroad experience at Evergreen turned out to be the most defining experience of my professional life thus far,” Green says. “The months in Russia, the research I engaged in, and the contacts I made have defined nearly all my professional experiences as a post-grad. Looking back, it was the best opportunity I ever had as a student. My programs and research topics were all significant and important to me in their own way, but nothing compares to the influence my study abroad experience has had on my professional character and the direction of my career.”

And he’s still in love. “Since those two trips,” he says, “I’ve never been able to get Siberia out of my head.”



Teaching Locally, Learning Globally: The World Comes to Evergreen

by Elizabeth Shé '99

"There are a number of programs at Evergreen with an international bent," says visiting media studies faculty member Beatriz Flores Gutiérrez. Bilingual (Spanish/English), she's been to France, England, Italy and Spain and brings that cosmopolitan sensibility to her teaching. Originally from Mexico, she is working on a documentary that deals with border and immigration issues. "There's a great tradition of studying cinema history from a transcultural perspective."

I like to do my research with people who can challenge my beliefs, help me laugh at myself, teach me great things, and form lasting relationships. Kind of like teaching and learning at Evergreen.

— Sean Williams, faculty member and ethnomusicologist

Sean Williams is fluent in Irish and Indonesian. "Oddly enough, aspects of the two nations have a few things in common. There is great love for the land, for the power of the spirit," she says, and "both love to laugh." She teaches Irish singing because "it's an essential path to the heart of Irishness. It's common in Ireland to be invited to sing." Plus, "it's portable."

Williams has lived in Indonesia, Ireland, Japan and Germany, and visited all of Western and Central Europe, most of Eastern Europe, the Near East, North Africa, and Ecuador. "My language capabilities are completely circumstantial: when I'm in Japan, I can speak Japanese; when I'm in France, I can speak French. But I can't speak Portuguese unless I'm listening to and singing Brazilian music."

She tends to teach music in the context of cultural studies. "The college purchased a Sundanese gamelan degung ensemble," she says. "I try to use it in all of my teaching, except the Ireland program."



Understanding culture is the most important work we can do. Crossing and exploring our differences. — Ukrainian-born faculty member Hirsh Diamant

Diamant speaks five languages fluently plus enough Chinese to get by, he says. “Philosopher Alan Watts believed we should all know at least three languages: our mother tongue; English, for modern commerce and art – it’s very precise; and Chinese, because it’s imprecise – the same word can be a verb, noun, adjective, or pronoun. There’s no gender, no tenses, and multiple meanings. Chinese is the most exquisite language,” says Diamant. “There are so many layers.”

Diamant also has an international background – he’s lived in the Soviet Union, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Mongolia, China, Egypt, Germany, Canada and Israel. “Maybe that’s why I see the importance of that, the connection between cultures,” he says.

Nine years ago Diamant founded and facilitated the local Lunar New Year Festival, “to bring awareness to and awaken interest in Chinese culture.” Over the years the festival has expanded. This year, inspired by Gene Walker, an Olympia man who created a gigantic octopus and dragon out of Christmas lights, Diamant thought, “Wouldn’t it be wonderful to light the outside, to light the campus?” Thus was born the “Gardens of Light,” an outdoor art installation celebrating festivals of light and the Solar and Lunar New Year, which opens in December.

As part of the festival, Master Chungliang Al Huang will lead a Tai Ji workshop, open to the community as well as students, staff and faculty. Seventy-plus years old, Al Huang “is the best ambassador for intercultural communication and bringing Chinese culture to Western audiences,” says Diamant. Al Huang worked with Joseph Campbell, and was a close friend to Alan Watts, the British philosopher who brought Zen Buddhism to Western audiences. This year his workshop, “Golden Flower of Dao,” will be held January 23-25. (If you’d like to attend, contact the office of Extended Education: (360) 867-5515 or extendededucation@evergreen.edu)

Though Diamant’s students will perform an original piece as part of the festivities in mid-February, faculty member Rose Jang is spearheading the Lunar New Year Festival with her “Changing China” program.

Co-taught with Wenhong Wang and David Shaw, “Changing China” covers Chinese history, society and culture, from the classical to the contemporary. Students learn Chinese, and investigate cross-cultural communication and negotiation, as well as philosophy, religion, literature, sociology, international business and economics, visual arts, theatre and performing arts, movement and martial arts. According to the program description, “Our ultimate goal is to understand today’s China as a vital global player.”



Lunar New Year Festival 2008.



I'm proud of the fact that we consistently support at least two international events. — John Robbins, director of Evergreen Expressions

This is the second year the Lunar New Year Festival is officially part of the Evergreen Expressions line-up. Out of the seven events planned for the upcoming season, three have an international connection: Ann Marie Fleming, Canadian filmmaker born in Okinawa, Sujata Mohapatra, Indian Orissi dancer, and the Lunar New Year Festival.

"We want the different, the unusual, the cutting edge," says John Robbins. Last year he brought in Ghanaian pianist, William Chapman Nyaho, a professor of music turned pro who composes songs of the African Diaspora. The first time Robbins heard Nyaho play his experimental arrangements, "he blew my socks off."

This year for the Lunar New Year Festival, Jang is bringing Chinese opera and orchestra performers from New York City. "It's very rare to be able to see real Chinese opera on the West Coast," she explains. "It's very different from other types of opera. We're very lucky." Robbins looks forward to expanding the festival beyond community groups. "We're reaching out to the international community," he says.

Evergreen Expressions events are always connected to curriculum and tied to academic programs. "It's more like a residency," says Robbins. "The artists must do workshops with academic programs, as well as perform." Productions are always sponsored or suggested by Expressive Arts faculty, though they can be co-sponsored by non-Expressive Arts faculty. "Evergreen Expressions is a reflection of what's happening on campus," says Robbins. "We're in line with the times and interests."

There's no substitute for study abroad, but there are advantages to studying here first. — Ratna Roy, faculty member and dancer

A world-renowned Indian dancer and scholar, Ratna Roy teaches cultural studies, literature and dance here at Evergreen. She is the foremost authority on the Mahari tradition of Orissi dance.

"We're considered a magnet school for Orissi dance training and a national resource of Orissi dance," says Robbins. "We have a world reputation."

"You get completely authentic training here at Evergreen," says Roy. "It is home to the cultural tradition. We even represent Orissi dance in Orissa (India). They love us there."

Roy is fluent in Bengali, Hindi, Oriya (the language of Orissi dance), and can read and write Sanskrit. Her professional dance company, Urvashi, performs the most traditional representation of Mahari dance in the world. Another resource of Indian culture is the archive of dance films owned by David J. Capers, Roy's husband. "He must have 1500-2000 hours of dance footage, from 1988 to the present," she says.

Roy still performs with her company. On January 30, 2009, they will perform as part of Evergreen's symposium on Asian Cultures in Secular and Sacred Relations.

"My alumni tend to stay connected, with me and with each other," says Roy. "They even go to India together." Former student Frank Petty '95 teaches Orissi in Redmond, and Anne Whitman '98 teaches in New York City.

The benefits of international exchange are long-term and life-changing.

The connections continue on. — Tina Kuckkahn, Director of the Longhouse Education and Cultural Center



Maori painter June Northcroft Grant (photo by Bonnie Graft).

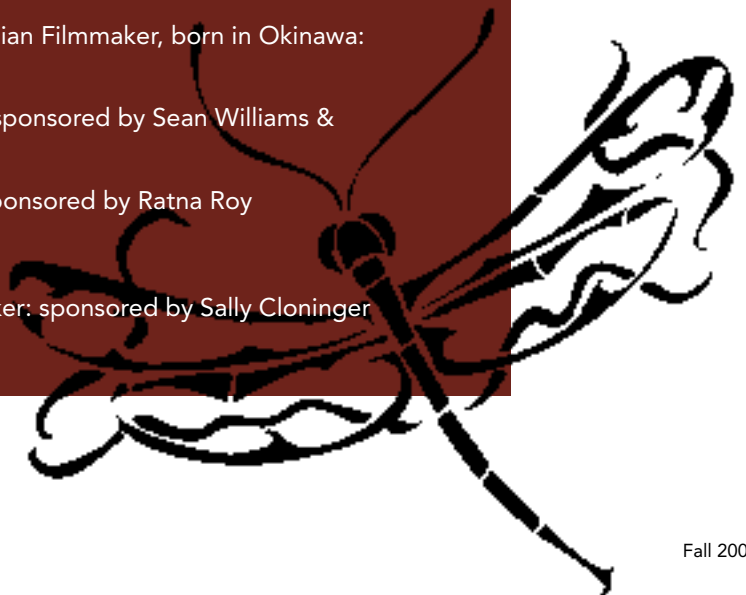
For the last three years, as part of a pilot artist-in-residence program, New Zealand has sent a Maori artist to Olympia for 12 weeks. Toi Sgwigwialtxw is a partnership between the Longhouse and Te Waka Toi/Creative New Zealand. All residencies include visits with Evergreen academic programs, public presentations and workshops, and exhibitions of new work.

Maori painter June Northcroft Grant was the artist-in-residence in 2008. One of her many projects included painting the canoe that the 2007 resident, Takirangi Smith, carved in collaboration with local tribal members and Evergreen students—now on view in the Longhouse.

The residency program was such a success from the beginning that it's been extended and expanded into a back and forth exchange. "Now it's time for us to send an artist to New Zealand," says Kuckkahn. And Maori artists will continue to come to the Longhouse every other year. "We have an evolving relationship," says Kuckkahn, who was thrilled when Te Waka Toi approached her with the residency idea in 2005. "We're such a small fish, compared with New Zealand's government-sponsored programs," she says. "But still, we have something to offer."

Evergreen Expressions — 2008–2009

- Pouring Tea, 10/23 – monologue about the Jim Crow era: Patrick Johnson
- Lynda Barry, 11/5 – discussing her new book, *What It Is*.
- Ann Marie Fleming, Winter Quarter – Canadian Filmmaker, born in Okinawa: sponsored by Ruth Hayes & Lucia Harrison
- Capacitor, 1/16/09 – Environmental Dance: sponsored by Sean Williams & Nalini Nadkarni
- Sujata Mohapatra, 2/7/09 – Orissi dancer: sponsored by Ratna Roy
- Lunar New Year festival, 2/15/09
- Jan Krawitz, 4/14/09 – documentary filmmaker: sponsored by Sally Cloninger



EVERGREEN

everywhere



Oscar Soule with
Mariners manager
Jim Riggleman (left)
and announcer Rick Rizzs.
Photo courtesy of the Seattle Mariners.

Soule is Mariners' Fan of the Year

Oscar Soule, an Evergreen founding faculty member, was honored as the 2008 Seattle Mariners Fan of the Year at the team's Sept. 26 game against the Oakland Athletics. Soule received his award during a special ceremony, which was also Fan Appreciation Night at Safeco Field.

Team spokeswoman Rebecca Hale said, "Each year, we choose a Fan of the Year who best exemplifies team spirit and unflinching support for the Mariners. Oscar has been a season ticket holder since 1985, but he has been a self-professed Mariners fan since 1977, our inaugural season. Oscar has a love for the game of baseball and a loyalty to the Mariners, through thick and thin, and we wanted to pay tribute to his support over all these years."

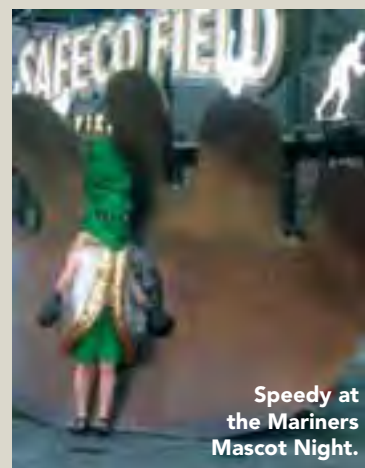
More than 200 Greeners attended the second annual Evergreen Night with the Mariners, hosted by the Alumni Association. This year saw the addition of a pre-game barbeque at Safeco Field's Bullpen Market, attended by about 70 Greeners. They were joined by members of the Olympia Rotary who were celebrating along with Soule, the Rotary's immediate past president.

A successful fundraising effort raised enough money to send a large contingent of first-year students to enjoy a night at the ballpark with alumni, faculty and staff. Members of the Board of Governors were notable donors to this effort, along with Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Soule, nicknamed "Mr. Mariner" by his associates, has purchased some 6,000 season-opener tickets over the past 37 years—200 or more each year—and distributed them to friends and family members. He has never missed an opening game since moving to Olympia to teach at the college and he attends about 15 games a year at Safeco Field, faithfully keeping a scorecard and summary of each game.

Soule's love affair with baseball dates back more than six decades when he began following his hometown team, the Cardinals. He has amassed a houseful of memorabilia, including alphabetized boxes of baseball cards and an autograph book filled with the signatures of some of the sport's greatest players, including Joe DiMaggio and Soule's personal favorite, the legendary Cardinal outfielder, Stan Musial. The vanity license plate on Soule's car includes Musial's jersey number, 6.

Soule taught environmental studies at Evergreen from 1971 to 2004, when he became an emeritus faculty member.



Speedy at
the Mariners
Mascot Night.

Photo by Katie Frank.

Eagles & Orcas

Evergreen Expeditions: an academic travel program for the Evergreen community



Join fellow Greeners June 19-21, 2009 for a 3-day, 2-night sea kayak tour of the San Juan Islands. Paddling to the Paleozoic is a geological tour featuring Evergreen faculty member Paul Butler and sustainability director John Pumilio, guided by the professionals at Outdoor Odysseys.

Paddling to the Paleozoic

Sea kayak tour in the San Juan Islands

June 19-21, 2009

Join us for an Evergreen Adventure!

For more information and to register: www.outdoorodysseys.com/reserve.html

Evergreen Recognizes Alumni Entrepreneurs

All around the country, Evergreen alumni are starting businesses, founding organizations and patenting inventions – living their dreams while helping build their communities. The new Evergreen Alumni Entrepreneur Association (EAEA) was created to recognize these accomplishments, and help others appreciate the impact of Evergreen alumni. “Especially in communities in the Northwest, we want alumni to be visible to each other, to their business colleagues, to lawmakers and the media,” says alumni relations director R.J. Burt. “In cities and towns all over this country, our alumni are having an impact, and will continue as long as Evergreen works to foster the entrepreneurial spirit in its students.”

In communities where large numbers of Greeners live and work, EAEA membership stickers are taking their place beside those of various chambers of commerce and business associations. Many downtown Olympia businesses proudly display their Entrepreneur Association stickers.

A Web-based directory of alumni entrepreneurs is being launched this December. Are you an entrepreneur? Go to www.evergreen.edu/alumni to check out the new directory and update your contact information.



David Accurso. Co-owner of Last Word Books with Sky Cosby '03 and Robert Ross '03, since 2002.



Sara (Elsner) Reilly '01. Co-owner of Darby's Café with Nathan Reilly '01, since 2005.



Melissa Boyer '94. Co-owner of Home Body Eco-Luxe Living Spa & Boutique with Kevin Boyer '90, since 2008.



Bill Hillman, '73 and Tom Anderson, '73. Co-founders of Mansion Glass, since 1973.

Top 5 Reasons for Evergreen to Reach You by Email

- 1 You'll get the new *Evergreen Express*, the revamped and redesigned e-News for the Evergreen community.
- 2 You'll hear first about Evergreen events such as Traveling Seminars, Evergreen Night with the Mariners, the launch of the Evergreen Adventures travel program, and campus performances and talks.
- 3 You'll help us save paper and reduce mailing costs, which means we can offer more programs to connect you with Evergreen and your fellow alumni – and you'll still receive your *Evergreen Magazine*.
- 4 You'll hear from us on average once or twice a month, and we'll never give your email out to other parties.
- 5 We'll never send you chain emails (although you may want to pass on cool Evergreen info to your friends!)

All over the country, colleges and universities are moving away from the resource-heavy practice of bulk mail, substituting electronic communication to stay in touch with their alumni and friends. Visit www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform.htm to update your contact information. (You may also leave a Class Note for the next *Evergreen Magazine*.)

Please help Evergreen go
“greener”
send us your email
address today!

News & Notes

Feddersen's Life and Works Chronicled

The University of Washington Press has published a survey of the career of longtime Evergreen art faculty member Joe Feddersen. The highly regarded artist, whose pieces are held in many private, corporate and museum collections, is known for his vibrant abstract work, which reinterprets the traditional Plateau tribal designs of his Colville Native American heritage and the Okanogan landscape where he spent his childhood in eastern Washington.

Entitled *Joe Feddersen: Vital Signs*, the 128-page book complements a major retrospective exhibition of the prints, glass sculptures and basketry Feddersen has made over the past decade. The title refers to Feddersen's description of the symbols he embeds in his work as "vital signs," or touchstones of memory. "Keeping these vital signs alive is what a healthy person does when he recalls his past," he says. The show, which opened at the Missoula Art Museum in Montana in June 2008, will be at the Tacoma Art Museum from September 12, 2009 until January 10, 2010, and then at Willamette University's Hallie Ford Museum of Art from January 30 to March 28, 2010.



The book features 95 full-color illustrations and includes a critical essay of Feddersen's work by Evergreen faculty member Gail Tremblay. It also contains a biographical piece by Rebecca J. Dobkins, the exhibit's curator. *Vital Signs* is the latest volume in the prestigious Jacob Lawrence Series on American Artists. Its publication was funded in part by the Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde in Oregon, the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian, the University of Washington Press, and The Evergreen State College.

View from the Top

Between Earth and Sky: Our Intimate Connections to Trees, by environmental studies faculty member Nalini Nadkarni, describes the myriad tangible and intangible ways the arboreal world touches humans. Published in June by the University of California Press, the book plumbs science, philosophy, art and literature to show the tree in all its glory, from roots to leaves.

Interwoven throughout are Nadkarni's personal tales about how these denizens of the plant kingdom have influenced her life, starting in childhood, when she wrote her first self-published book about tree climbing, *Be Among the Birds*. Since then, the world-renowned canopy biologist and president of the International Canopy Network has scaled trunks on four continents with individuals from numerous walks of life—including students, artists, clergy, musicians, activists, loggers, legislators and Inuits—to gain different perspectives on their affinities with trees.

In her acknowledgments, Nadkarni recognizes the students from her Trees and Humans program and the Forest Canopy Lab, who "provided information and ideas," and the faculty, students and staff who provided "the interdisciplinary habitat and support for the creation of this book." Environmentalist and author Bill McKibben reviewed the book as being "as wonderful a compendium as one could imagine of all things that make trees such special companions, rooted and steady and patient and full of glory."



Evergreen Achieves High Marks

While no one survey captures quality in higher education, Evergreen appeared consistently on top national lists this year for academic excellence and environmental sustainability efforts.

- ★ **Top 25 "Best Universities-Master's-West" "America's Best Colleges 2009"**
US News and World Report
- ★ **#5 of the Top 10 "Coolest" Schools for efforts to address global warming**
Sierra Magazine
- ★ **Best 368 Colleges**
The Princeton Review
- ★ **Top Colleges in the West**
US News and World Report
- ★ **98 out of 99 Green Rating for environmental practices**
The Princeton Review
- ★ **Featured in "A+ Schools for B Students,"** grouping colleges that look beyond grades to other indicators of student success, and have "first rate programs and strong reputations."
US News and World Report
- ★ **Top 5 Green College**
Planet Green, The Discovery Channel
- ★ **"Best Workplaces for Commuters"**
National Center for Transit Research
- ★ **"Exemplary" Sustainability Program**
National Wildlife Federation

Ransom's Seventh Round of Poetry

Bill Ransom, Evergreen's academic dean of curriculum, has completed a new book of poetry called *The Woman and the War Baby*. The collection draws upon Ransom's experiences as a firefighter and advanced life support emergency medical technician during the 1980s and 1990s in the Olympic Peninsula's Jefferson County, as well as his volunteer work with humanitarian groups in Central America. It includes poems from his published chapbook, *Last Call*, and his CD, *War Baby*.

Published in September by Blue Begonia Press (www.bluebegoniapress.com), the book features cover art and images by Evergreen faculty member Joe Feddersen and Ransom's translations of poetry by Evergreen Tacoma faculty member Zhang Er. Ransom received a grant for the book from the Seattle-based nonprofit arts organization Artist Trust.

The Woman and the War Baby is Ransom's seventh poetry collection. An earlier one, *Finding True North* from Copper Canyon Press, was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award. He has also published six novels. In 1973, Ransom founded the annual Port Townsend Writers' Conference at Centrum, the arts colony located at Fort Worden State Park. Held each summer, this gathering is renowned for its intensive, weeklong writing workshops, as well as its readings, panel discussions and social events. The next conference is July 12-19, 2009.

Before starting his writing career, Ransom—the son of a professional boxer—fought for two years at Washington State University, where he had a boxing scholarship.

Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

Coontz Classic Re-Issued

The second edition of *American Families: A Multicultural Reader*, edited by Stephanie Coontz, is now available. First published in 1999, the anthology sprang from Coontz's family history course at Evergreen. The book explores the interactions between race, ethnicity, class, gender, and sexuality in shaping the broad variations of family life that exist in this country, and has become a classic in the field of family diversity in America. The updated, revised and enlarged anthology contains an essay entitled "Management by Stress" by Sarah Ryan, a labor studies faculty member in Evergreen's Evening and Weekend Studies program. "At last, a book that replaces unrealistic idealization of 'The Family' with the many faces of real families in the real world!" literary critic Katha Pollitt wrote of the book. "Accessibly written and full of important data, this is the best single-volume guide I know to the way we live now."

In addition to teaching history and family studies at Evergreen, Coontz is director of research and public education for the nonprofit Council on Contemporary Families (CCF). In June, she presented to the CCF her briefing report, "The Effect of the Economic Crisis on Families," summarizing the economic pressures Americans now face and the fallout for families from such direct consequences as eviction and food insecurity to less obvious effects like deteriorating schools and the difficulty families may have caring for their pets. Coontz has written extensively about the history of families and marriage. She has authored four books and had articles published in many publications, including *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal* and *Newsweek*.



Cheryl Simrell King is Educator of the Year

MPA Director Cheryl Simrell King was named the Public Administration Educator of the Year by the Evergreen chapter of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA), which includes most of western Washington. She was recognized for her “work on bridging the divide between academics and practitioners...along with helping public organizations to become more open to citizens and their own employees.”

Featured in the most recent edition of ASPA’s Profiles of Outstanding Women in Public Administration, Simrell King says she strongly believes that public administration faculty need to reach out beyond the classroom and make a difference in the lives of disadvantaged citizens. “The third leg of every academic stool is one’s engagement and work in the community,” she said.

Simrell King’s award was presented during National Public Service Recognition Week, which “provides an opportunity to recognize government employees for their roles in creating and delivering critical services and to educate citizens about the many ways in which government makes life better for all of us,” said Steve Benowitz, chair of ASPA’s awards program.

Help create a Greener future

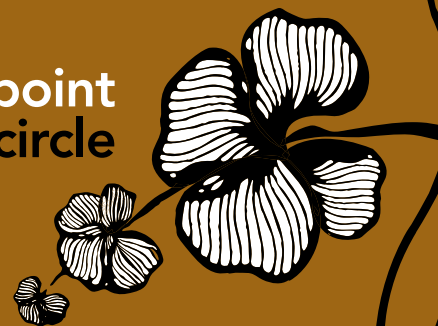
On behalf of more than 100 Evergreen students who receive scholarships and activity grants through the Annual Fund, we want to pass along a simple message: “Please consider a gift – it makes a big difference.”

Today, Evergreen relies more than ever on private donations for student scholarships, faculty development and support for critical programs across the campus. Our students depend on you.

Please give to the Annual Fund today!

www.evergreen.edu/give

the
cooper point
circle



Are you in the Circle?
www.evergreenstategift.org

1975

James Laurel Carlsson, Olympia, has written more than 50 stage and screen plays under the pen name Vivien Lim. He has published visual and performing art criticism for years (*Reflex*, *Artforum*, *DanceNet*, etc.) under the name Jae Carlsson, in order to keep his creative and critical writing identities separate. Several of his long and short plays have been produced by Seattle’s Writers and Actors Reading and Performing (WARP) and Little Red Studio, which hosted his works in October and November 2008. A short screenplay appeared in a showcase of stage read-

James Carlsson '75



ings by the Portland Dramatists Workshop last summer. He has created some controversy on the Theatre Puget Sound (TPS) online forums for questioning the continuing value of past theater conventions and by insisting that regional theaters have an obligation to concretely support the work of local playwrights by actually producing plays by local playwrights. He also posts regionally and internationally on the subject of digital theory, as well as on other aesthetic and historical subjects.

Adele Berg-Layton and **David Layton**, Bainbridge Island, Wash., have been married 30 years. Adele was a self-employed musician for 25 years as a choir director, voice teacher, and vocalist, singing opera and performing in musical theater. She now teaches at an elementary school. David currently teaches high school American studies and English. They have two beautiful daughters.

This spring, **Maureen McNeil**, New York, N.Y., and **Janet Neuhauser**, Seattle, released *Red Hook Stories*, a compilation of 20 short stories and photographs depicting 1980s life in the Red Hook neighborhood of Brooklyn, N.Y., a vibrant community full of ethnic and social diversity. After owning a vegetarian restaurant together in Olympia, they made their way from Washington to Red Hook in the late 1970s. The book captures the life of artists, carpenters, and out-of-work families, among others, and their struggle to survive in an area with a dangerous reputation in the midst of a crack epidemic, with violence in the



Schuler Named Safeco Community Hero

Evening and Weekend Studies faculty member Doug Schuler received a 2008 Safeco Community Hero Award for his numerous accomplishments in “building computer networks that empower and enliven communities, all the while teaching and motivating others to do the same.” Schuler, the former chair of Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility (CPSR), has long been engaged with issues related to the social implications of computing. He has volunteered thousands of hours to raising awareness about communication and information issues concerning human needs, as well as creating social capital to help build “connected” communities in Seattle, South America, India and other places around the globe.

Much of his work is dedicated to CPSR, where he helped facilitate the initiative, “Liberating Voices,” and is the director of the Public Sphere Project, a participatory action/research initiative on civic intelligence. He has served on numerous City of Seattle telecommunication advisory boards and co-founded the Seattle Community Network (SCN), an all-volunteer, free, public-access computer network that encourages community development. His articles and books include *New Community Networks: Wired for Change* and *Community Practice in the Network Society*. His latest book, *Liberating Voices: A Pattern Language for Communication Revolution*, will be published by MIT Press in December.

The Safeco Community Hero Award, which recognizes individuals who make a positive difference in their communities and inspire others to do likewise, comes with a \$15,000 grant for the nonprofit organization where the recipients work or volunteer.



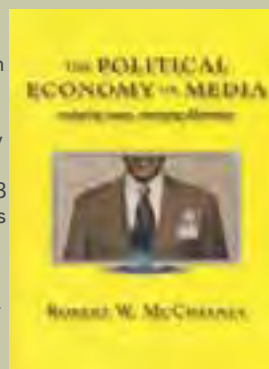
CLASS NOTES

housing projects and an infamous methadone center. *The Brooklyn Daily Eagle Review* says, “together the scenes paint a vivid and warm, although isolated and difficult, picture of Red Hook, and the authors’ care for the neighborhood is evident in the book’s intimate tone.” Maureen is director of education at The Anne Frank Center, USA; her writing and artwork can be found at www.maureenmcneil.net. Janet received her MFA from Pratt Institute in 1986, and continues to teach and work in Seattle.

David Michael Schroeter, Port Townsend, Wash., has published 20 CDs of original music, mostly on Purnima Productions, his own label. From 1990 until 2007 he performed locally. Since then he has been focusing on a book about busking, and this summer, he returned to Scandinavia with his wife Dari, where they were featured in a show about Copenhagen on CNN International. Visit his Web site at www.davidmichaelharp.com.

1976

Robert McChesney, Urbana, Ill., has a new book out called *The Political Economy of Media: Enduring Issues, Emerging Dilemmas* (Monthly Review Press). As the companion to his 2007 book, *Communication Revolution: Critical Junctures and the Future of Media*, the latest work brings together elements of much of McChesney’s research on the political economy of media over the past 25 years. In 23 essays, it critiques the current state of journalism, reveals the incompatibility of the corporate media system



with a viable democracy, and discusses the corrupted policymaking processes that give rise to such a system. A leading media scholar and critic who concentrates on the history and political economy of communication, McChesney is the Gutsell Endowed Chair in the department of communication at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He hosts the weekly talk radio program “Media Matters.”

1977

Thomas L. Fleischer, Ph.D., Prescott, Ariz., published *Desert Wetlands* in collaboration with photographer Lucian Niemeyer in 2005. He began working on his third book this fall. He was also the co-editor of a special issue of the literary journal *Alligator Juniper* on “Nature and Psyche.”

Organic Farm Recovering from Arson Blaze

This fall brought both great news and a challenge to Evergreen's Organic Farm.

On September 14, an arson fire destroyed a greenhouse, plant stock, a tool shed and most of the hand tools at the farm. Damages came to more than \$50,000, and the impact was more than financial.

"This fire has put a burn scar on more than just the structures on the farm...Our farm is fundamental to our shared Evergreen identity," said student Jake Mixon. "It is a place where we can go to realize our true common ground. That is why this fire is so devastating. It strikes at the heart of our ability to exist as a community."

Since the earliest days of the college, the Organic Farm has provided a learning opportunity for students in programs ranging from sustainable agriculture to environmental science. Today it provides an increasing share of the food consumed on campus. Its crops also help feed the hungry in Thurston County. Clean-up and reconstruction is underway, and the farm plans to rebuild in time for the winter growing season.

In more positive news, earlier this summer Salmon-Safe, a Portland, Oregon-based environmental group devoted to promoting practices that protect the native fish species and their ecosystems, certified the Organic Farm as the Pacific Northwest's first "salmon-safe" college farm. An endorsement from the organization means an agricultural operation's practices have been found to protect water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and native biodiversity. It also means the operation will be promoted with the organization's Salmon-Safe label, which provides competitive advantages to growers and food companies.

"As the first college farm to be Salmon-Safe certified, Evergreen will serve as a working model to educate the public about both environmental farming practices and credible third-party eco-labeling programs," said Larry Nussbaum of Stewardship Partners, the organization coordinating Washington's Salmon-Safe program.

"Being only a mile from Puget Sound, we take great pride in our environmental farming practices," says Evergreen farm manager Melissa Barker. "As a regional certification program, Salmon-Safe offers us independent verification that we are meeting our environmental goals and will help us communicate that to our students and the greater community."

Photo: Katherine B. Turner, photography intern

1978

Tina Hoggatt, Issaquah, Wash., an educator and artist, created "The Positions on the Field," a series of nine artworks displayed along the third base line of the upper concourse at Safeco Field, home of the Seattle Mariners. Her three-feet by five-feet porcelain enamel on steel panels each portray a player from the history of baseball. The players represent the nine positions of the field, as well as the history and diversity of the game, and include players from the Negro Leagues, the All-American Girls Baseball League, and the Japanese Professional Leagues, in addition to Major League Baseball. Safeco Field has one of the most comprehensive art programs of any Major League ballpark, with public and private baseball-inspired works by noted Northwest artists featured throughout Safeco Field and the parking garage. Learn more about Tina's work at www.tinahoggatt.com.



Tina Hoggatt's "The Positions on the Field," 1999.

1979

Joyce McConnell, Morgantown, W.Va., was named dean of the West Virginia University College of Law. An endowed professor of law and associate dean for academic affairs, she is the second woman to serve as dean of the college in its 130-year history. She began her teaching career at Georgetown University Law Center, where she received her master of law degree in 1990. She received her juris doctor from the Antioch School of Law in 1982. Her article, "Beyond Metaphor: Battered Women, Involuntary Servitude and the Thirteenth Amendment," is excerpted in *Domestic Violence and the Law: Theory and Practice*, a textbook on gender and domestic violence. She is on the executive committee of the Association of American Law Schools' section on natural resources and past president of the section on women in legal education, as well as the American Bar Association's committee on land trusts. In

Linda Thomas Named CEO of Wilcox Farms

Linda Thomas '88 was named chief executive officer of Wilcox Farms, Inc., a 99-year-old family owned agribusiness based in rural Roy, Wash. Earlier this year, the company sold its dairy operation to Darigold and brought in Thomas to manage its transition to an expanded organic and cage-free egg business. The company, which counts Costco and Wal-Mart as its biggest customers, is one of the Pacific Northwest's leading egg producers, with more than a million chickens on properties in Washington and Oregon.

In her new post, Thomas is also coaching the fourth generation of Wilcox family members to assume eventual leadership of the transformed enterprise, which is committed to maintaining its farmland sustainably and providing a healthy, local product for consumers. While Thomas serves as CEO, various family members act in advisory and senior management roles, as well as on the board of directors.

Thomas earned her Evergreen bachelor's degree in ecological agriculture. And Wilcox started out as a poultry operation in 1909. It began processing milk in the 1970s, but changes in the industry made this part of the business unprofitable. So both Thomas and the Wilcox family are returning to their roots.

Before assuming her new post, Thomas worked with the company for 18 years as a business consultant. In 2004, she retired as the executive director of Gordon, Thomas, Honeywell, one of the region's largest law firms, after leading the firm's growth from two branches to four. Thomas had previously been a general manager in the aerospace industry and operated a consulting firm, serving as a management consultant to Puget Sound-area executives and companies. She also held office as a state representative in the 26th Legislative District (parts of Pierce and Kitsap counties) for one term in the 1980s. She holds a master's degree from the leadership program of City University of Seattle. Her granddaughter, Victoria Schroeder, began her studies at Evergreen this fall.



Many Greeners and community members have already made cash and in-kind donations to help the farm recover. Given state budget challenges, gifts from Evergreen community members, alumni and other supporters are more important than ever to help us rebuild with less impact on funding for other student needs. You can make a contribution to the Organic Farm fund at give.evergreen.edu, or send a check to:

**The Evergreen State College Foundation
Organic Farm Fund
2700 Evergreen Parkway NW, Olympia, WA 98505**

You'll be helping to restore not just buildings and tools, but a valued part of the Evergreen experience.

partnership with others at WVU, she has received more than \$1.5 million in grants from the Kellogg Foundation, the U.S. Geological Survey and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to provide service-learning opportunities to law students to assist low-income rural communities and their residents. She is active in land-use planning and conservation in West Virginia and was a founding member of the West Virginia Land Trust.

1980

David Mazon, Amherst, Mass., was honored with a 2008 Dakin Award by the Amherst Chamber of Commerce for launching Reader to Reader, a six-year-old nonprofit that has distributed more than two million books free of charge to school libraries in the nation's neediest communities. He was featured in a July 25 *Christian Science Monitor* cover story. On a budget of only \$200,000, Reader to Reader (www.readertoreader.org) ships

more than \$1 million worth of books per year donated by publishers, charity groups and individuals to more than 400 under-resourced schools across the United States. More than a million were donated to rebuild school libraries devastated by Hurricane Katrina. The organization serves inner-city schools, Native American reservations and poor rural towns. Reader to Reader also supplies donated reading software to libraries and has started a mentoring program linking college students in Amherst to high school students at the Navajo Reservation who read the same books and communicate online. Participating students receive academic support and travel to each other's communities. College mentors visit the reservation to work one on one with the students and learn firsthand about Navajo

life and culture. And the Navajo students spend a week at Amherst College to learn about going to college. The mentoring program was hailed as "groundbreaking" by *The Navajo Times*. For more information on Reader to Reader, see www.readertoreader.org.

1981

Daniel Botkin, Gill, Mass., was voted into the Footbag Hall of Fame by the World Footbag Association in summer 2008. The Footbag Peace Initiative, which he founded in 1988, encourages peace and cooperation through footbag sports by facilitating intercultural play across North and South America. In 1988, he organized and led a six person, athletic friendship expedition through rural Central America. He conceived and produced

Submit a Class Note for the fall issue at www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform.

Simpsons Ride is Best Attraction

It may not be Itchy & Scratchy Land, or Praiseland, or even Kamp Krusty. But The Simpsons Ride is still the Best New Theme Park Attraction for 2008, according to Theme Park Insider.com. The motion simulator ride opened in May at both the Universal Orlando Resort and Universal Studios Hollywood. A collaboration between series creator **Matt Groening '77**, The Simpsons team, and Universal Parks & Resorts, the ride takes visitors into Krustyland, Krusty the Clown's new theme park, just as übervillain Sideshow Bob escapes from prison and takes control of the park to avenge himself against Krusty and the Simpson family.

The Simpsons Ride features original animation starring the original cast members, including a guest appearance by Kelsey Grammer as Sideshow Bob. It also boasts the largest lighting installation of LED lamps in theme park history, expending less than a third of the energy that traditional lights would have used. "For twenty years I've been dreaming about this, and here it is – a wild, thrilling Simpsons Ride put together by a huge number of talented artists and amusement-park maniacs," says Groening.



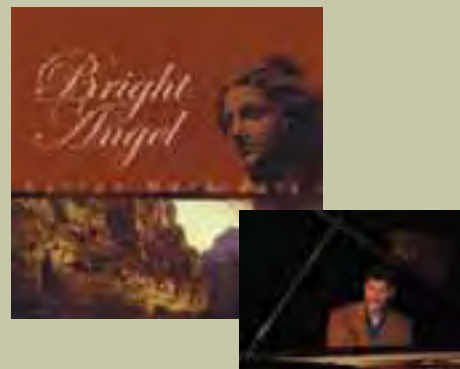
Photo ©2007 Universal Orlando. All Rights Reserved.

(with independent film director Robbie Leppzer) a self-funded video documentary chronicling this trip – *Futbolito: A Journey Through Central America*. The film was nationally broadcast on PBS in 1994 and excerpted on The Learning Channel in 1996. Botkin also designs and makes his own custom footbags and has been offering footbag-making clinics, large and small, for 22 years. A teacher, social worker and athlete with a penchant for adventure, alternative sports, and people-to-

people activism, he has traveled extensively, working and living in Central America. He worked for nearly 20 years with at-risk and special needs youth in residential programs, private schools, and wilderness programs, and spent time teaching in public schools. Today, he is a full-time organic farmer and local foods activist in western Massachusetts (www.laughingdogfarm.com).

1982

Harlan "Mark" Vale, Prescott, Ariz., recently released "Bright Angel," his latest solo piano CD, recorded at Yavapai College's performance hall on a 1923 Steinway & Sons grand piano. At Evergreen, he studied 20th century composition, electronic music and audio engineering, working primarily with the buchla synthesizer. His latest disc is a body of work composed while spending time at the Grand Canyon. Musync Music Library, which provides music for film, movies and other venues,



recently included his compositions in their music library. He has also created a collection of free improvisations and acoustic piano arrangements of some of his earlier electronic compositions. "By returning to the piano, I have found that my music achieves even greater expression with this venerable old treasure," he says. Listen at www.harlanmarkvale.com.



Daniel Botkin '81

On October 25, the Evergreen men's soccer team celebrated a double victory as it played and won the 500th game in the history of the oldest sports program at the college.

Freshman Corey Johnson scored a hat trick, and Matt Curry and David Maple added a goal apiece as the Geoducks knocked off visiting Northwest Christian University, 5-1. They kept their Cascade Collegiate Conference playoff hopes alive in this historic match, which came 28 years after Evergreen, then playing under coach Willie Lippmann, first took to the pitch.

The Geoducks have won 197 and tied 43 of those 500 matches over the years, including outstanding eras like 1983-94, when winningest coach Arno Zoske led teams that were nationally ranked and once defeated the University of Washington. In 2004, under one of Zoske's former players, Tom Boatright, Evergreen advanced to the final eight of the NAIA national championships.

Current men's and women's coach John Purttman, who Zoske ranks as one of the best athletes ever to play for him, is a link to the first standout teams of the 1980s as the Geoducks work toward reestablishing national prominence.

Several Geoducks were honored by the Cascade Collegiate Conference this fall. Volleyball players Madeline Blevens and Annie Forman, cross country runner Eric Jones, and soccer players Matt Stalnik (left) and Madeline Tuson-Turner were all named Academic All-Conference. The women's soccer team boasted three All-Conference players – Kate Green (1st Team), Brianna Speed (2nd Team) and Sonya Daisley-Harrison (Hon. Mention), while James Pratt (2nd Team) and Matt Curry and Corey Johnson (Hon. Mention) were honored for men's soccer. Two All-Conference cross country stars, Annie Mullen and Brian Rakestraw, advanced to the NAIA National Championships in November.

Happy
500th!
Game,
that is

Photos: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97.

1983

Marylne Blackburn, Smyrna, Ga., appeared on the premiere of CNN's *D.L. Hughley Breaks the News* on October 25. Marylne also was featured on Fox News 5 in Atlanta, discussing her 1984 Miss Alaska title victory over Republican vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin.

Raymond E Fowler, North Bend, Wash., is married, has three kids and is still passionate about soccer and Evergreen. He was a founding Geoduck soccer team member.

Christine Glazewski Kennedy, Oakland, Calif., teaches elementary school and ESL for the Unified School Districts in East Bay, preparing students from all over the world for college. She lives with her 10-year-old son. She absolutely loved her Evergreen experience and plans to bring her son to visit the Olympia campus.

1984

Cynthia Barrington, Colorado Springs, Colo., an entrepreneur since 1996, specializes in selling handmade toys as well as Native American DVDs and music CDs.

Debby Behnfield, Lakewood, Colo., is happy and well, sharing her life with her husband, Tom, and two sons. She works at the Colorado School of Mines in the Career Center.

Tom Kaye, Corvallis, Ore., is executive director of the Institute for Applied Ecology, a non-profit organization in Corvallis. He earned his master's degree in botany from Oregon State University, and is involved in watershed health issues for the state of Oregon. "I have a lively 12-year-old daughter named Lila who keeps me entertained, enthralled and grounded," he writes. "Someday I hope to open a chocolate factory. It could happen!"

Mark Rohyans '84



Mark Rohyans, Lubbock, Texas, is a student in Texas Tech University's Educational Technology program. Prior to starting school in April 2008, he worked at a wildlife reserve studying red-shouldered hawks.

Submit a Class Note for the fall issue at www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform.

Kuhns Piecing Together Art and Business

Like many new mothers, **Jennifer Kuhns '93** was torn between returning to work to help support her family and spending time with her daughter, Anouk, who was born in 2003. She decided to do both—by selling the art she made from her Porter, Wash., home.

Kuhns, who studied art and cultural anthropology at Evergreen, enrolled in a business-training course through Enterprise for Equity, an Olympia-based nonprofit that helps people with limited incomes start and sustain small businesses. Within months, she had developed a business plan and a Web site for her new enterprise, Cosmic Blue Monkey Designs. She also constructed a large studio on her five-acre property, nestled in the hills of Capitol Forest. There, among other things, she produces whimsical, brightly colored mosaics from salvaged glass and tile.

Kuhns focused on mosaics after finding success with her first project—an effort in 2000 to conceal an ugly repair job in her bathroom. She now specializes in panels and installations for homes, businesses, gardens, and public places in the Pacific Northwest. “I love the structural, touchable quality of mosaic and I have recurring day-dreams of countertops, doorways, benches and most other blank spaces covered with colorful designs,” says the self-proclaimed compulsive recycler.

Her pieces can be seen in various venues around the South Puget Sound area, including the Communications Building on campus, where her tribute to Jacinta McKoy '91 hangs. The 36-inch by 30-inch panel (right) memorializes the popular performing and media arts coordinator who died suddenly in March 2004. Kuhns worked with McKoy for three years before her daughter was born.

Kuhns’s “Spring Harvest” graced the cover of the City of Olympia’s Spring 2007 Arts Walk guide. Another of her pieces was selected to be included in the juried exhibition “Sum of All Parts: Contemporary Mosaic Art in North America.” The show, which ran at the Walters Cultural Arts Center in Hillsboro, Ore. from December 4 to January 30, 2008, showcased the work of some of the world’s best mosaic artists.

Her current focus is on garden art, with a stronger emphasis on using recycled materials. She also conducts mosaic workshops. To view Kuhn’s work, visit www.blumonkeyart.org.



Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

1985

Holly St. Clair, Chehalis, Wash., published her first novel, *Calliope in Time*, in July 2008. It is available through Basementia Publications (www.basementia.com). With her husband Richard Straw and son **Moon St. Clair '01**, she owns and operates the Matrix Coffeehouse, a music venue and restaurant in Chehalis.

1986

Thomas Daniels moved to Newport, R.I., this summer, after spending the past 13 years as a psychologist in private practice in Madison, Wis. For the next two years, he will combine two of his loves, sailing and woodworking, as he learns how to restore wooden boats at the International Yacht Restoration School. He says the only time he’s ever been close to this excited about education was in his small psychology seminars with Kirk Thompson at Evergreen. He spent the summer helping

to restore the fishing boat “Roann” at Connecticut’s Mystic Seaport Museum. Some of his recent wood projects are online at <http://ewandme.com/wood>.

1987


Linda Upshaw, Federal Way, Wash., earned her master in teaching degree at the University of Washington-Tacoma. She teaches television production and started a music and art education business called Musical Ed-ventures (www.musicaled-ventures.com). She lives in the Twin Lakes area.

1988

Samuel Eugene Avera, Decatur, Ala., retired from the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) as a technical services manager. He would like to hear from his classmates from the Business of Computing program.

Libby Dunkin, Issaquah, Wash., has worked for 20 years in the high-tech industry managing engineering teams and releasing new products. She is operations director at Flux Drive, whose patented direct-current permanent magnetic array circuit is the basis for two energy-efficient products for use with AC motors. This technology was recently installed at Evergreen. Previously, Libby spent eight years at Microsoft developing markets for new operating systems and technology. After Microsoft, she was vice president of engineering for a start-up gaming company, overseeing the release of new products and managing the development, testing, marketing, support and IT groups.

William Strauss, Ithaca, N.Y., and his family live at the EcoVillage at Ithaca. This intentional community is developing an alternative model for sustainable living. It includes two 30-home cohousing neighborhoods, with a



SUPER SATURDAY turns 30!



In 1978, Larry Stenberg and Judy McNickle, then Evergreen's directors of alumni and college relations respectively, dreamed up the idea of an annual spring festival on campus. This year, Super Saturday marked its 30th anniversary with much revelry, nonstop entertainment and great food. Now billed as Washington's largest one-day festival, Super Saturday has blossomed into a popular community tradition that not only celebrates the end of the school year but also kicks off summer.

On June 14, the day after the Class of 2008 graduated, more than 15,000 people converged on the campus. Throughout the day, the crowd was treated to a variety of live performances, the Arts and Crafts Fair, which hosted more than 100 vendors, and The Longhouse Education and Cultural Center's Native Arts Fair, featuring more than two dozen juried artists with a variety of traditional and contemporary work. The Kids Country area provided local children with hands-on learning activities, and dozens of groups from Thurston and Mason counties were on hand to discuss opportunities for community involvement.

The event spilled downtown with a street party and circus by the Seattle troupe, Pure Cirkus. Downtown events were sponsored by Evergreen's community radio station KAOS, which is observing its 35th year.



Larry Stenberg and friends at Super Saturday.

This year's Super Saturday sponsors included radio stations KFMV 97.7 FM-The Eagle, and Mixx96 KXXO, *The Olympian*, Toyota of Olympia, the Squaxin Island Tribe Tourism Department, American Family Insurance of Tumwater, Puget Sound Energy, the Pacific Northwest Mushroom Festival, and Tumwater Costco.

Photo: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97, inset from Evergreen archive.



EcoVillage at Ithaca. Photo by Jim Bosjolie

third neighborhood in the planning stages, an organic community-supported agriculture vegetable farm, an organic CSA/You-Pick berry farm, office spaces for cottage industry, a neighborhood root cellar, community gardens and varied natural areas. Learn more at www.ecovillage.ithaca.ny.us/.

1990

Kory Ambrosich (Merkel), Phoenix, Ariz., started a small family business, Give a Voice LLC (www.giveavoice.com), a Web site which helps parents build a customized picture menu of foods they usually feed their children. Toddlers can then point to the pictures of the food they want to eat, eliminating wasted food and making mealtimes more enjoyable. The family donates 10 percent of their profits to CARE, a nonprofit organization working to end hunger and poverty worldwide.

Dante Driver, Seattle, is enjoying life with his wife, **Shoshana '91**, and their three children. Dante owns his own business and is an attorney, CPA and financial planner/investment advisor. Shoshana is vice-president of Ribbond Inc., which manufactures Ribbond-Triaxial, a fiber used to reinforce dental resins. Shoshana and Dante and their family are avid hikers.

Lucretia Krebs, Chehalis, Wash., is a licensed clinical psychologist with a small practice in Lewis County. Her experience at Evergreen motivated her to pursue her advanced degree in psychology. She still lives in the same home she lived in when she attended Evergreen. She enjoys spending time on the family's five acres in Woodland with her almost 12-year-old daughter and her husband of 35 years.

1991

Jean M Barrington, Point Roberts, Wash., is the senior pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Matthew Dodson, Pasadena, Calif., was named director of local government relations for the California Grocers Association in September. Previously, he was a field representative for state senators Jack Scott and Debra Bowen. He lives with his 5-year-old son, Eli, and is a past "Greener Gathering" volunteer.

Boome '08 Takes Prize for Native Art

The Longouse Education and Cultural Center and the Washington State History Museum recently showcased some of the Northwest's finest Native American artists at the third annual In the Spirit Northwest Native Arts Festival June 28-29, 2008. Evergreen alumnus Peter Boome '08 (Upper Skagit) took home the Washington State Historical Society Purchase Prize for his piece "Salmon Season." Held at the Washington State History Museum, the festival included an outdoor art market, a performing arts stage, a collector's seminar and a juried art show. Pictured here is "Angel" by Jerry Laktönen (Alutiiq), which was the winner of Best in Show.

IN THE
SPIRIT
2009

August 8-9, 2009

Applications are being accepted for both the art show and for market vendors. Contact the Longhouse at 360.867.6718 or www.evergreen.edu/longhouse for more information on the festival and on Native arts and culture.



Grants Support Partnership for Native Student Success

The Partnership for Native American College Access and Success—a collaboration of five Washington state higher education institutions, including Evergreen—has received \$292,000 from the Gates Foundation, \$195,000 from the Lumina Foundation and nearly \$500,000 from the National Science Foundation to strengthen postsecondary curriculum for Native students in Washington and create a clear pathway to a bachelor's degree for Native Americans in Muckleshoot and Tulalip communities.

The work builds upon ongoing work through The Evergreen State College's Enduring Legacies Project, which established the initial partnership between Evergreen and Grays Harbor College to serve reservation-based students. The partnership includes Antioch University, The Evergreen State College, Grays Harbor College, Muckleshoot Tribal College, and Northwest Indian College.

According to Michelle Aguilar-Wells, co-director on the grants and director of Evergreen's Reservation-Based Community-Determined program, the project represents an unusually deep partnership among institutions. "What brings us together is our commitment to high-quality education for Native students," she says. "Evergreen provides a strong program leading to a bachelor's degree that prepares students for various careers in public service within or outside of tribal communities. By working together, we can strengthen all of our programs."

Ramona Kay Abbott, Bellingham, Wash., is married and starting her own company, Wrist Rocks (www.wristrocks.com). She creates custom handmade couture bracelets from antique, vintage and modern beads, buttons and trinkets from around the world.

Rebecca A. Connelly, Valley Springs, Calif., returned to school and earned two master's degrees in business administration. She was also blessed with a grandson, Ethan, this summer.

1992

Ian Daitz, Albuquerque, N.M. is completing his degree in landscape architecture.

1993

Sharon Chirichillo, Olympia, is practicing law at her own firm in Olympia.

Carolyn and John Holt, Guida, Calif., raise Capay Reds, a unique breed of sheep, on their farm, Sheep Dreams Ranch. These hardy red-faced sheep are an amazing wool and meat breed. The farm uses rotational grazing techniques and has approximately 100 head of sheep. The Hols would love to give educational tours.

Lisa Pearson, Los Angeles, Calif., founder of Siglio Press, recently celebrated her first release, *The Nancy Book* by Joe Brainard. The book "collects over fifty visual and literary works in which Brainard appropriated the classic comic strip character Nancy and sent her into an astonishing variety of spaces, all electrified by the incongruity of her presence."

1994

Douglas R. Peterson-Carpenter, Glendive, Mont., completed Central Washington University's yearlong Highly Qualified Teacher Certification program, and teaches Spanish at Dawson County High School. Thalia Fe, his daughter, is in the 8th grade and looks forward to attending Evergreen in four or five years.

Sarah Charlene Wilson, Lacey, Wash., is a program coordinator for the Washington State Employment Security Department. She enjoys training others on their computer systems, and appreciates putting into practice the skills she learned at Evergreen, especially the Tacoma campus.

1995

Julianne Leigh Fogde, Olympia, works for the Department of Transportation in the GIS and cartography division.

Lynda Barry Enlightens Us About *What It Is*

What is an idea made of? What is an image? Are there images inside us? How do objects summon memories? How do we compose?

Lynda Barry '80, delves into these mysteries—and more—in her engaging new book, *What It Is* (Drawn & Quarterly). Part creativity guide, part autobiography, it bursts with color, collages, and hand-scrawled counsel. In it, the cartoonist, artist, author and teacher shares a lifetime of art-making experiences and insights, and offers suggestions to help readers jumpstart their own personal flights of creative self-expression. Sprinkled throughout are the quirky images for which Barry is famous: angst-ridden teens, meditating Buddha monkeys, floating cephalopods, scary monsters, and flitting creatures.

What It Is is based on Barry's two-day workshop, "Writing the Unthinkable," which she presents several times a year around the country. The goal of the workshop is to pass on a method of working that she learned from her Evergreen art teacher Marilyn Frasca and has used ever since—in the creation of her books (*The! Greatest! Of! Marlys!*, *One Hundred Demons*, *The Freddie Stories*, *Cruddy*, and *The Good Times Are Killing Me*), her long-running weekly comic strip (*Ernie Pook's Comeek*), and her life. In October, she and fellow artist **Matt Groening '77** were featured as part of the 9th annual *The New Yorker Festival*, a three-day gathering of writers, artists, and performers.

When Barry attended Evergreen, she enrolled in the program, Images, co-taught by Frasca, to whom the book is dedicated. Frasca, an emeritus faculty member, retired in 1999 after 26 years of teaching and being involved in both visual and expressive arts and college governance. We asked Frasca, who continues to work at making prints and drawings in her Olympia studio, to comment on the book.



What did you think about Barry's book being dedicated to you?

Lynda's book, *What It Is*, is really marvelous. I was surprised by the dedication and delighted by her recollection of the Images program.

What was your Images program like?

Mark Levensky and I taught Images together and we agreed that if we could help students learn how to work and how to make their

own images, we [would] have done a lot. We required students to make five finished images each week to be presented for discussion with Mark or myself at an individual conference. My appointments with Lynda were the highlight of my week because she was always prepared and her work was stunning in its execution and originality. Some of her "erotic space" drawings that she made for her conferences are in *What It Is*.

Anything else you'd like to add?

Sally Cloninger and I participated in Lynda's workshop, "Writing the Unthinkable," this July at Omega Institute in Rhinebeck, N.Y. She is a brilliant teacher and performer and we both found the workshop extraordinary. Lynda creates creative and compelling contexts in which to write from one's own experience expertly guided by her unique method.



Ben Parzybok, Portland, Ore., released *Couch*, his debut novel, this fall. "In this exuberant and hilarious debut reminiscent of *The Life of Pi* and *Then We Came to the End*, an episode of furniture moving gone awry becomes an impromptu quest of self-discovery, secret histories, and unexpected revelations," says Amazon.com. A writer and web developer, Ben is also the creator of *Gumball Poetry*, a journal published through gumball machines, and the Black Magic Insurance Agency, a city-wide mystery/treasure hunt. He has worked as a congressional page, a ghostwriter for the governor of



Washington, a Web developer, a Taiwanese factory technical writer, an asbestos removal janitor, and a potato sorter. He lives with writer Laura Moulton and their two children. Read his blog at <http://secret.ideacog.net>.

Rebecca Percy, Portland, Ore., made the first of her signature "record" handbags for a 2001 music festival fashion show in Olympia. Today, she designs entire lines of handmade bags, purses and wallets as owner of Queen Bee Creations (www.queenbee-creations.com), founded in 1996 from a corner in her bedroom. She is thrilled and amazed that her little project has turned into a thriving company involving the skills and contributions of so many talented people. She recently created AIGA Banner Bags, which began their life as banners that were created for Portland's Urban Forest Project by local designers, artists, illustrators and photographers. Sale proceeds benefit Portland's Friends of Trees. She also launched

Chickpea, a new line of accessories for parents and their babies such as diaper bags, changing pads, and tiny tees.



Rebecca Percy '95

Evergreen Tacoma Exhibit Pays Tribute to Unsung Heroes

This fall, an art exhibition at Evergreen Tacoma spotlighted some of the most influential—and underrepresented—figures in Washington’s history. Entitled “Exposed: The Unique History of African American Pioneers,” the show featured 13 larger-than-life portraits of black individuals who played trailblazing roles in the state.

Part of an ongoing project, the images were painted by Tacoma artist Dionne Bonner, who began the series in 1994 with a commission from the African American Museum in Tacoma. Accompanying each picture is a biographical statement to educate viewers about the legacy left behind by the little-known subjects.

Among the people portrayed in the collection are Nettie J. Asberry, a leader in early regional civil rights efforts, who was born in 1865 and earned a doctorate in music from the University of Kansas before settling in Tacoma in 1893; George Washington Bush, Washington’s first black settler; and his son, William Owen Bush, the first African American to serve in the state legislature, who introduced the bill establishing the agricultural science college in Pullman that later became Washington State University.



Dionne Bonner

Photos: Carlos Javier Sanchez '97

1996

Ronan O'Reilly, Sallins, Ireland, met his partner Pamela during an Evergreen quarter in Santiago, Chile, led by faculty member Jorge Gilbert. After some years in Chile, Ronan and Pamela decided to move to Ireland and have been sharing some wonderful adventures together in a small village in County Kildare. They also share their lives with Enya and Ruari, who always keep their parents focused and inspired. When not working for Dublin Airport, Ronan is involved in an attachment parenting group in his community. He is still deeply inspired by his years at Evergreen and regards his



time on campus as a life-changing experience. He would like to maintain contact with his old college friends, and encourages any Greeners living in Ireland who might wish to reminisce about their college days and make new alumni friends to contact him.

1997

Pierre Alexis, Miami, Fla., teaches math.

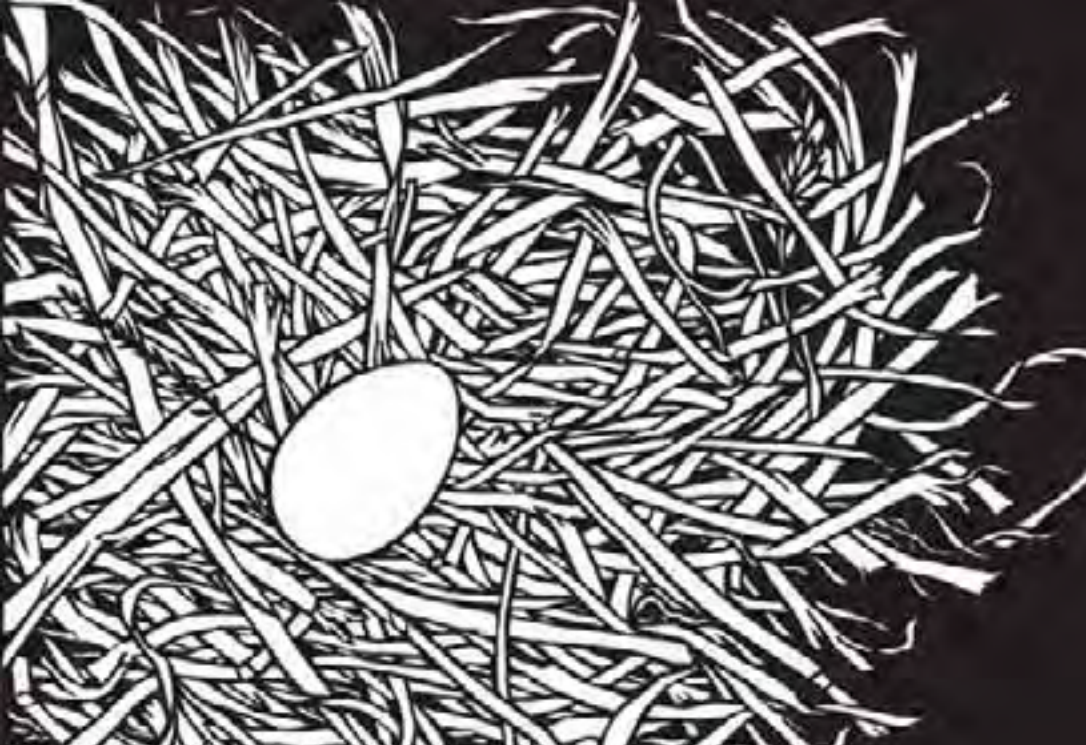
Matt Daniel Kunze, Fort Collins, Colo., is a hydrologist for the state of Wyoming.

Grant Ramsey, South Bend, Ind., assistant professor of philosophy at Notre Dame, was featured in his first solo photography exhibition this fall. The exhibit, *Nicaragua: Photographs By Grant Ramsey*, ran from September 15 to November 14 at the Crossroads Gallery in downtown South Bend. Sponsored by Notre Dame's Institute for Latino Studies, it featured 15 candid photos of people at



"Father and Daughter," Grant Ramsey '97.

work and play in Nicaragua. While studying in Costa Rica during his time at Evergreen, he began using photography as a way to document scientific trials. After traveling to Nepal in 2000, he made photography one of his passions. In 2001, when his wife Maya Parson began field research in Nicaragua, where he had spent spring 1997 as a student,



Patagonia Features McClure

Nikki McClure '91, whose cut paper artwork is gaining increasing regional and national recognition, is one of a handful of artists most beloved by Patagonia, a company known for its pioneering stance on environmental issues. Last spring, the outdoor gear and apparel manufacturer licensed four of McClure's striking designs for a line of organic cotton T-shirts. Two carry messages close to McClure's nature-loving heart: "Ditch the Car" shows a woman pushing two children in a wheelbarrow, and "Eat Local" features an image of an edible plant and text inside the shirt about The Center for a New American Dream, an organization devoted to encouraging individuals and institutions to consume responsibly for a better world. Next spring, her work will grace more of Patagonia's products, including boxer shorts.

McClure, who studied natural history at Evergreen, says the arrangement is helping to reach a wider audience than would be possible through self-publishing. "It's a vehicle for making images that increase scientific literacy, which is so needed right now,"

she says. "Patagonia is great to work with. We share common values about how to care for the world. It's hard to find that."

McClure, who works from her home studio in Olympia (pictured above), got her start in the business of making art by producing her own calendar in 1998. The 2009 edition, "Wake Up," is available from buyolympia.com. A self-taught artist, she regularly produces her own note cards, T-shirts, posters, and books. Next spring, *All in a Day*, a children's book she illustrated, will be released by Abrams, which also published McClure's last book, *Collecting Raindrops*, in 2007. The text was written specifically for her images by the Newbery Medal-winning author Cynthia Rylant.

In October, McClure, her husband Jay T. Scott and their 4-year-old son Finn took a "Vote for Survival Tour" that made stops in galleries in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Olympia. The tour showcased a series of limited edition signs silk-screened on wood boards and included a number of McClure's original paper-cuts, including the artwork from her 2009 calendar and some of her book covers. See her T-shirt line at www.patagonia.com.

he began a photography project to reflect on life there, and returned to Nicaragua every summer until 2005 to further pursue his project. "One strand of photography that I really like are those images that take a slice of life and, through an ordinary task, say something more," he told the *South Bend Tribune*. "What I wanted to do was make an accurate portrait of Nicaraguan daily life."

1999

Steven Rentmeester, Olympia, designs databases that assist in salmon recovery. For the past four years, he has run Evergreen's Forest Canopy Research Lab. His database design business is an independent contractor for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service, a division of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Tai Mudra Travis, Vashon Island, Wash., and his wife started a Waldorf preschool on Vashon.

1999

Ginny-Marie Case, Los Angeles, Calif., and her partner Alex Brideau III welcomed daughter Iolani Mariann Brideau on August 27, 2008. Ginny and Alex have been partners since 2001. They met while Ginny was working for Medea Benjamin's U.S. Senate campaign, and Alex was volunteering for Ralph Nader's 2000 presidential campaign. Ginny works for The Robert Group, a public affairs firm. Alex works for the City of Los Angeles Housing Department.

Christopher Scott Drechsel, Tacoma, Wash., is an environmental engineer for Tesoro Companies.

Caitlin Dunipace, Salt Lake City, Utah, was inspired by her spring 1998 Sense of Place program to pursue a career in midwifery. She completed her bachelor of science degree in nursing at Bowling Green State University, and has been a registered nurse for five years. In

summer 2008, she started classes for her master's degree at the University of Utah, where she is studying to become a certified nurse-midwife and women's health nurse practitioner.

2000

Elizabeth Mekuria, Honolulu, Hawaii, has been living in the islands on and off for the past four years. She works at Easter Seals Hawaii as program manager in Adult Day House, part of a non-profit that works with people with special needs. She loves living and working near the ocean on an incredible island.

Tami Moffatt, Olympia, works at Clover Park High School as a Spanish teacher and world language department coordinator. She still shows bullmastiffs, works with dogs as a volunteer 4-H leader, and is living *la vida loca*. Her oldest son is in sixth grade and her youngest is in first; both are becoming musicians. Educating others has become her passion in life.

100 miles in 23 hours, 23 minutes, 30 seconds



Kyle Skaggs '05, a former member of Evergreen's cross country team who regularly trained on campus and Capitol State Forest trails, has been making a name for himself in the rarified world of ultrarunning. In July, he set a course record in the Hardrock 100 Endurance Run in Silverton, Colorado, completing the grueling 100-mile loop through the rugged terrain of the San Juan Mountains in 23 hours, 23 minutes and 30 seconds and winning the race by more than six hours. Considered among the toughest footraces in the country, the Hardrock traverses high-altitude snowfields, talus heaps and alpine streams. Entrants trek above 12,000-foot elevations 13 times, with the highest point on the course being the 14,048-foot summit of Handies Peak. Skaggs' victory was the first-ever sub-24 hour time.

After Skaggs' reached the finish line, Hardrock race founder and director Dale Garland told the *Durango Herald*, "I didn't think this was possible. I don't know if there is a superlative I can use for this. This is one of the great athletic barriers that we thought would never be broken."

In 2007, *UltraRunning Magazine* named Skaggs the third best male runner in the country. Also known as ultramarathoning, ultrarunning is a form of foot racing that involves distances greater than a marathon, or 26.2 miles. Skaggs has broken records for several other long-distance runs, including the Rim-to-Rim-to-Rim (R2R2R), a double-crossing of the Grand Canyon, the circumnavigation of Mount Rainier, and the Wasatch Front 100 Mile Endurance Run.

Skaggs is a research assistant for the Silverton, Colorado-based Mountain Studies Institute, a nonprofit research and education organization devoted to the understanding and sustainable use of the San Juan Mountains. He is also New Balance's "Outdoor Ambassador for Mountain Trail Running." According to his profile on the Web site of the sporting goods company, his favorite inspirational quote is "Life begins at 10,000 feet," by the late Willi Unsoeld, a mountaineering legend and founding Evergreen faculty member.

"Mountain running is one of the keys to my happiness," says Skaggs. "I feel most alive when running at my physical limit high above treeline in spectacular terrain. While I train in preparation for racing against strong competition, the daily pull of a mountain summit or alpine lake provides even more motivation."

Kyle Skaggs. Photo by David Halterman.

2001

Daniel Barton, Missoula, Mont., is three years into his Ph.D. at the University of Montana, studying the life history of birds. He studies birds in Venezuela and Arizona and soon will be studying in Borneo.

Marielle Lorraine Emond, Montague, Mass., is pursuing her master in teaching degree at Smith College.

Jesse L. Mabus, Austin, Texas, is an information specialist at Southwest Educational Development Laboratory, a non-profit educational research, development and dissemination organization. His current project is with the Center for Comprehensive School Reform and Improvement.

Michael Shepherd and his wife **Abigail '02**, Spokane, Wash., have been married four years and have a two-year-old daughter, Lydia.

2003

Bret Corrington, Seattle, Wash., established Artist Eye Portfolio in 2004 after studying photography at Evergreen. His business evolved from helping other students put together their portfolios.

Kurtis Dawson, Aberdeen, Wash., was named chief executive officer of the Grays Harbor YMCA. He worked his way up from a clerk position in 1996. He shares his life with wife Sasha.

Erica Lee Nelson, Washington, D.C., returned to the U.S. from a three-year stint in India, during which she worked for a business magazine, freelanced for *The Washington Times*, studied Hindi and had a big fat Indian wedding. She now lives in Washington D.C. with her husband Sebastian and works as an international trade policy reporter for Inside Washington Publishers.

2004

Sara Valenzuela, Portland, Ore., is pursuing her Ph.D. in applied social and community psychology at Portland State University. She is engaged in primary prevention research in the area of sexual violence and child sexual abuse, as well as the treatment of juvenile sex offenders.

Kathleen (Kate) Van Gelder, Lakewood, Wash., is a communications analyst for the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO). This agency is known as "the investigative arm of Congress" and "the congressional watchdog" because it provides oversight of federal programs. Kate is based in the Seattle office where she works with the Education, Workforce and Income Security Team.

Paul Ortiz Leads Premier Oral History Program



This fall, **Paul Ortiz '90** began his work as the new director of the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program at the University of Florida, one of the premier oral history programs in the United States. An award-winning author and oral historian, Ortiz was previously an associate professor in the department of community studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Ortiz got his start in oral history as a reporter for Evergreen's community radio station, KAOS. He produced the public affairs radio program "Pathways to Justice," which featured interviews of activists around the world. He also interviewed migrant farm workers and labor activists as an organizer for the United Farm Workers of Washington State. Before enrolling at Evergreen, he served as a paratrooper and radio operator in the 82nd Airborne Division and Special Forces, attaining the rank of sergeant.

In 2000, Ortiz earned a doctorate in American history from Duke University. He conducted more than 150 interviews as a research coordinator for "Behind the Veil: Documenting African American Life in the Jim Crow South," a National Endowment for the Humanities-sponsored project which featured accounts of black Southerners during segregation. "Behind the Veil" was aired as a four-part documentary on National Public Radio's Morning Edition in 2002 and has since been re-broadcast on stations in the U.S. and abroad. Ortiz subsequently worked on the book and CD project, *Remembering Jim Crow, African Americans Tell About Life in the Jim Crow South*, a recipient of the Southern Regional Council's 2002 Lillian Smith Book Prize.

Ortiz is the third director of the Oral History Program. Established in 1967, the program preserves eyewitness accounts of the economic, social, political, religious, and intellectual life of Florida and the South for future generations.

Alumna Helps Bring Olympics to Vancouver

Elaina J. Spring '97 is pursuing a once-in-a-lifetime career opportunity with the Vancouver Organizing Committee (VANOC) for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. In 2006, she relocated to Vancouver, B.C., to serve on the brand and creative services team.

From a high-rise office between East Vancouver and Burnaby, her 30-person team represents graphic artists and marketing professionals from all over the world. They are part of close to 1000 full-time staff on the organizing committee. They recently launched the new graphic identity that will help define "the look" of the city at Games time. She has also been involved in developing the Vancouver 2010 motto "With Glowing Hearts/Des Plus Brillants Exploits," ticketing, and Cultural Olympiad events, among others.

"Working at VANOC is a dream come true!" Spring says. "It is so fantastic to work with the best of the best on this project."

Spring has worked as a corporate event planner for the past 10 years. She earned a professional certificate in event management from the University of Oregon, as well as a Certified Meeting Professional (CMP) designation. She and her husband, Darrin Eden, were recently married in Canada at a sunset ceremony.



Elaina Spring at the Vancouver 2010 Information Centre – Whistler, BC.

2005

River Bissonnette, Rye, N.H., is currently the sixth grade science teacher at Rye Junior High School.

Wilma Kaye Benz, Richland, Wash., would like to connect with other Greeners in the Tri-Cities area.

2006

Nicholas Collin Harris, Olympia, worked at KAOS for three years and is now the tour manager for Groundation, a Bay Area roots reggae band. He also works for the Washington, D.C. based Duke Ellington Jazz Festival. In August, he was booking agent for the Northwest World & Reggae Festival, outside of Eugene, Ore. This past year, he traveled 12,600 miles across the U.S. and looks forward to touring this fall. He has also been fortunate enough to travel and work in Ethiopia, Israel and across Europe.

2007

Natalie Knight, Albany, N.Y., is beginning a Ph.D. program in English this fall at the University at Albany-SUNY.

Benjamin L. Moore-Maley, Olympia, tutors at Evergreen's QuaSR center.

Nicholas Harris '06.



2008

Marin Fox Hight, Longview, Wash., began her new job in June as director of Cowlitz County's Department of Corrections. She joined the department as a corrections officer in 1999 and worked her way through the ranks, gaining experience at all of the department's divisions, including juvenile detention, offender services, probation, and the county prison. Earlier this year, Dan Price, the former county corrections director, named her as his deputy director. She obtained endorsements from police officials in the surrounding local communities of Kelso, Longview, Woodland and Kalama, and county commissioners showed such confidence in her ability to do the job that they promoted her immediately upon Price's retirement. Marin studied organizational development and public management at Evergreen and criminal justice at Washington State University. In her new post, she plans to implement new programs to reduce recidivism and to train inmates in career and life skills.

In Memoriam

Karla Peters Austin '89, of Cove, Ore., died Aug. 30 of cancer. After receiving her first degree from the University of Nevada, she pursued a career in radiology from New Mexico to Minnesota and finally Washington state. Travel was Karla's second love, something she pursued throughout her life. Highlights included sticking her toes in the Arctic Ocean and travel to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji.

She loved to work with plants and the environment, pursuing her associate's degree in horticulture at South Puget Sound Community College, and her bachelor's in environmental studies from Evergreen. She went on to Portland State for a master's in geography. As Karla worked and pursued her education, she continued gardening, canning, freezing and drying the foods she loved to grow, cook, eat and share.

She is survived by her husband, Richard Austin; parents, Marion and Marvin Peters; brother and sister-in-law, Brian and Pamela Peters; sister and brother-in-law, Laura and Roderick Thompson; sister, Rita Kidder; former husband, Albert Walp; eight nieces and nephews; and numerous cousins and friends.

Loren E. Freeman '78, of Olympia, died Sept. 17. A world traveler, Loren retired from a 30 year career in the United States Air Force, where he served during World War II, the Korean Conflict, and the Vietnam Era. He was a member of the American Legion in Olympia. A photographer and painter, Loren was a longstanding member and former president of the Olympia Camera Club (OCC) and the Northwest Council of Camera Clubs (NCCC). Skilled in building his own customized computer, Loren was an avid member and former president of the Olympia Microcomputer User Group (OMUG).

Loren is survived by his daughter, Terry Coe; his son, Mike Freeman; his daughter, Pam Aalbers; his wife, Wendy Freeman, Evergreen's director of the Career Development Center; his grandchildren, Sherry Coe, Carolyn Jaffe, Heather Hauenstein, Faith Freeman, Brian Gustofsen, Taryn Aalbers; and his great-grandchildren, Nora, Jonah, Sara and Emily.

Patricia Lott '75, of Seattle, Wash., died Sept. 26. Born in Cedar Falls, Iowa, she moved to the Pacific Northwest to pursue an opera and concert-singing career that took her around the world, culminating with a solo concert at the Mahler Festival in the Italian Alps. The diagnosis of scleroderma abruptly ended her operatic career at age 39.

She founded the Evergreen Chapter of the Scleroderma Foundation, which continues to help survivors in the Pacific Northwest cope with this debilitating disease. Her passion for organizing led to a master's degree in public administration from Seattle University. Bird watching helped to free her from a wheelchair in 1999, and she remained active in Audubon and other ornithological societies until a tragic automobile collision ended her life.

She is survived by her mother, Kathryn; her sister, Diana Anderson; her domestic partner, Alan Lincoln; and other family members.

Thomas Allen "Tom" Stierhoff '79 of Hampton, Va., died Sept. 17. After earning a B.S. in biology/biochemistry at Evergreen, he continued with graduate studies in biology/statistics, concentrating in ornithology, at Northern Arizona University. He was a natural resources and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) specialist, working for several local firms and serving as a consultant to the Army for many years. He was the author or co-author of many technical reports and plans and worked on projects across the country.

He loved to tend his vegetable garden, watch science fiction movies and political talk shows, do sudoku puzzles, fish and crab, and play with his daughter Kimberly and teach her about nature. Tom is survived by his wife of eight years, Pamela Schenian; daughters, Phoebe Elizabeth Stierhoff and Kimberly Andrea Stierhoff; brother, John; other extended family members; and life-long friends.

Patrick Hill, philosopher, teacher, author, poet, musician and Evergreen emeritus faculty member, died on June 26, 2008. Born March 26, 1939 in Brooklyn, New York, to Irish immigrant parents, he was a devoted Brooklyn Dodgers fan. His admiration for his boyhood hero Jackie Robinson would help shape his life's work and his enduring thirst to advance causes of social justice and racial equality. He attended The Paulist Seminary for a time and earned his bachelor's degree from New York's Queens College. He was awarded a Danforth Fellowship to attend Boston University where he earned his Ph.D. in philosophy.

He was a professor of philosophy at the State University of New York at Stony Brook from 1968 through 1983, where he developed an innovative interdisciplinary teaching model, the Federated Learning Communities. This award-winning approach to teaching was replicated by scores of colleges and universities across the country and eventually led him to Evergreen, where he was vice-president and provost from 1983 through 1990, and a member of the faculty for eighteen years.

Patrick was devoted to his wife, Maureen, and together they raised three children: Rob (and his wife Jane); James (and his wife Doreen), and Rebecca (and her husband Dane). The family requests that contributions be made in Patrick's name to The Evergreen State College Foundation for the purpose of establishing an endowment in his honor. Contact: The Evergreen State College Foundation, 2700 Evergreen Parkway, Olympia, WA 98505.

ON GAELIC LOVE (To Maureen)


Sandwiches cut diagonally
taste better than
sandwiches cut horizontally—
no matter what's in them.

And hot dogs at the ballpark
Are superior
to hot dogs
anywhere else.

And being with you—
wherever we are—
is the tangiest mustard
of all.

Patrick Joseph Hill 1939-2008



A man with short dark hair, smiling, wearing a green zip-up jacket with a circular logo on the left chest that says "EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE" and "ALUMNI". He is standing behind a white and black Olympus microscope on a dark surface. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Show the world you're no ordinary Greener with alumni gear!

Tyrus Smith '97

Occupation: Evergreen faculty member, environmental studies

Mode of transportation: Car and Bike

Book: *Salmon Without Rivers: A History Of The Pacific Salmon Crisis* by James A. Lichatowich

Accomplishment: Returning home to Tacoma to teach at Evergreen's Tacoma Campus Program

Word: Collaboration

Saying: "The purpose of life is to matter, to be productive, to have it make some difference that you have lived at all" ~ Leo Rosten

When I'm not teaching, I: love fishing, cooking, camping, hiking and biking.

**Available on campus at The Evergreen State College Bookstore,
and online at www.evergreen.edu/bookstore**

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

A ROSETTA Quilt



Photo: Katherine B. Turner, photography intern. Inset Photos: Carlos Javier Sánchez '97

On September 23, Evergreen's newest mural, "A Rosetta Quilt," was dedicated. Created by visiting faculty member Joe Tougas and a team of artist-scribes, the multicolored painting evokes the history and cultural diversity of writing. Commissioned by the Friends of the Evergreen Library, the mural graces the Library's portico on the shear wall nearest to the Seminar I Building. Tougas describes the artwork as an effort to "to create a set of painted letterforms and ideograms from a variety of world languages. The overall effect would be a textural arabesque, which on closer inspection reveals meaningful texts in many languages." Like the original Rosetta Stone, which unlocked the secrets of Egyptian hieroglyphics, Tougas' work awaits decoding by the inquisitive observer.

