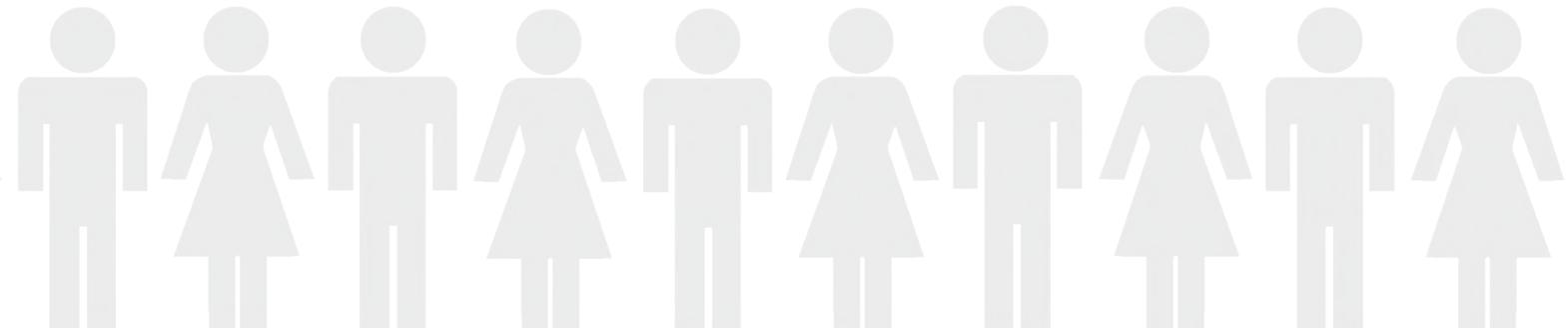
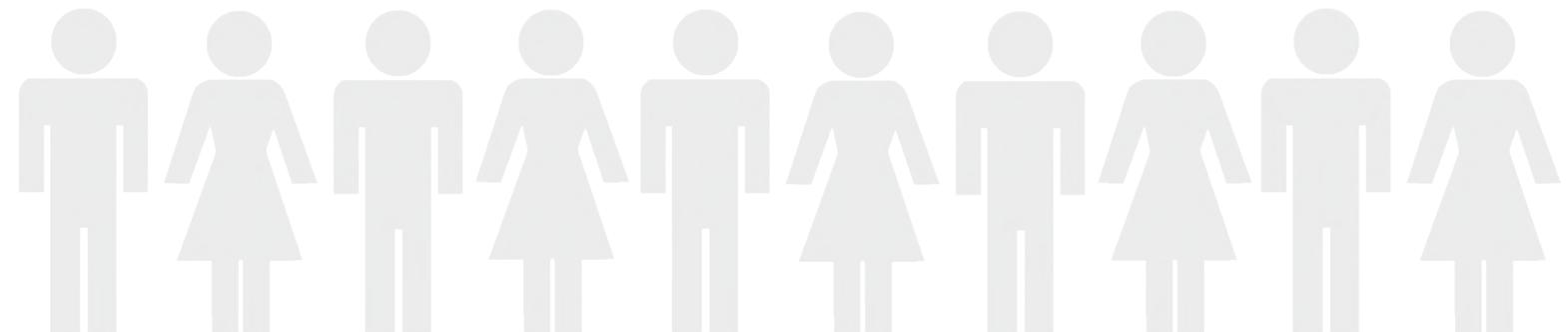


# CURRY

MAGAZINE | Spring 2016

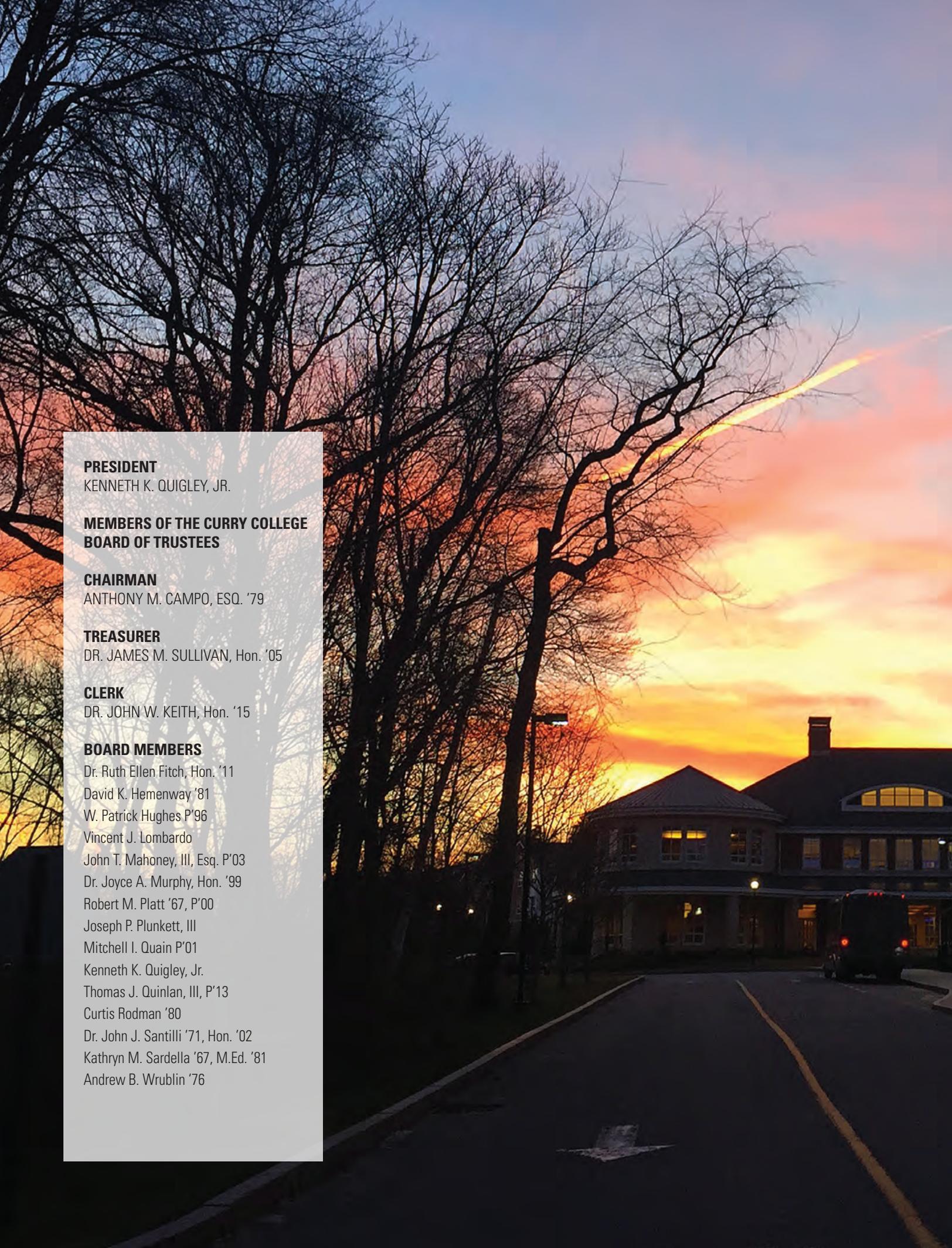


*Graduates of the past decade represent more than one-third of the 15,000 Curry College alumni. Read how a new Young Alumni Council is engaging this growing number of graduates.*



**YOUNG ALUMNI FOSTER CURRY CONNECTIONS** *page 18*

BLUE HILLS TO BACK BAY, Tom Brennan '84 *page 10* | ENTREPRENEURIAL DREAMS *page 13*



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**Curry Magazine is a publication  
for alumni, parents, and  
friends of Curry College.**

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Andrew B. Wrublin '76 joined President Kenneth K. Quigley, Jr. for a conversation with current Business Management students.

## *From the Desk of President Quigley*

Our Convocation keynote speaker this academic year was Krista Selnau '09, who talked about stepping out of your comfort zone (story, page 6). Krista noted that you may feel anxious or even scared, but that you should try to push yourself to get to the exciting and enlightening parts of life. It's certainly worked for her! In my view, it is in the space beyond our comfort zone where the achievement predicated on a Curry education begins to really kick in. It's the foundation students establish on our Campus that gives them the skills and confidence to believe in themselves and to achieve, succeed, and contribute.

Alumnus Tom Brennan '84, profiled on page 10, got involved with the Newbury Street real estate scene in the 1980s — both as a property seller and a community volunteer — and achieved such success that the *Boston Business Journal* dubbed him the “King of Newbury Street.” Although much has changed since he graduated from Curry, Tom still makes the time to see many of the lifelong friends he made here more than 30 years ago. His sentiment that “friends from Curry are friends for life” is one we agree with and I hear often from our graduates at alumni events on Campus and at receptions across the country.

Another alumnus thriving in the world of real estate is Andrew Wrublin '76, who joined Curry's Board of Trustees in February (story, page 3). I've learned much from Andy, and I'm grateful for Andy's commitment to serving his alma mater and its students.

As a successful entrepreneur, Andy knows what it takes to build more than one outstanding company from the ground up. The four alumni entrepreneurs interviewed for this edition of *Curry Magazine* (story, page 13) also took the opportunity to use their strengths and ambition to take risks and create companies they believe in. Again, a key component was their belief in themselves, which they established as a result of a Curry education.

At Curry, we believe that our alumni are the best ambassadors for our College, and play a pivotal role in helping us propel our plans for the future. Our Young Alumni Council (story, page 18) is a new group helping to keep members of the alumni community connected to and involved with the College. Graduates of the past decade represent more than a third of our overall alumni population, and we're fortunate to have this new Council to help us reach and engage our growing number of young graduates.

Reaching and engaging high school students who may benefit from a Curry education is an important action that all alumni can take in support of our College. We hope that you, too, will serve as a Curry ambassador by referring bright and talented prospective students to the [curry.edu](http://curry.edu) website.

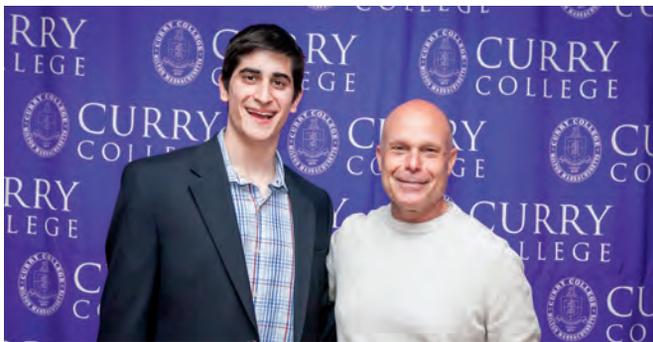
All of us working to make Curry a special place for our students appreciate the many contributions that our alumni, parents, faculty, staff, and friends have made and continue to make in support of our College, including your generous financial contributions. Whether you've honored a favorite mentor through this year's Memory Lane Campaign, supported a treasured program, endowed a scholarship, or made an Annual Fund contribution, each donation adds to the momentum for advancing our strategic goals and achieving our Mission, the Mission of enabling success and achievement for our students and alumni. Thank you, as always, for remembering Curry in your philanthropic giving.

I wish you and yours health, happiness, and success as 2016 continues.

# Curry College Welcomes New Trustee Andrew B. Wrublin '76

Andrew B. Wrublin '76 was elected to serve on the Curry Board of Trustees at the October 2015 Board meeting and commenced his term of service at the Board meeting in February 2016.

"I am very proud of the growth at my alma mater and to be asked to join the institutional leadership of Curry College by President Quigley," says Wrublin. "I look forward to partnering with a talented group of women and men who comprise the Board of Trustees in continuing this tremendous progress."



L to R: Hans Nagrath, Class of 2017, and Andrew B. Wrublin '76.



Andrew B. Wrublin '76

Wrublin has more than 25 years of experience as a real estate investor. He is a founder and principal of Dalan Management Associates, Inc., a Manhattan-based firm that operates residential, commercial, and mixed-use properties. Wrublin previously founded G. Wrublin Co. Inc., a major U.S. electronics distributor. He grew this company to more than 30 million dollars in annual sales and has served as its president for the past 37 years.

"It's always gratifying to have our alumni join the governing Board of our great institution," says Curry President Kenneth K. Quigley, Jr. "Andy's professional success and personal commitment to continuing the positive momentum at Curry are going to be great assets in moving our College forward."

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## Dr. Joyce A. Murphy recognized as one of *Worcester Business Journal's* Outstanding Women in Business

Curry College Trustee Joyce A. Murphy, Hon. '99, MPA, executive vice chancellor of UMass Medical School's Commonwealth Medicine division, was recently honored as one of six Outstanding Women in Business by the *Worcester Business Journal*. She was recognized for being a female leader, fighting for the needs of underserved populations, and for her success in the health care field.

Dr. Murphy, a dedicated member of the Curry College community, has been the recipient of several prestigious awards over the past year. Among those, she was presented with a 2015 Pinnacle Award from the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce. She received the Excellence in Health Care, Arts & Education award, honoring female leaders who have achieved excellence in business and management.



Joyce A. Murphy, Hon. '99, was honored as one of six Outstanding Women in Business by the *Worcester Business Journal*. Photo: Submitted by UMass Medical School's Commonwealth Medicine Division.



## myCurry Portal for Families

The myCurry family portal provides a way for families to access information about Curry College and available resources.

Parents and family members have had an important role in supporting their students' education throughout the years. They can continue to be important partners in helping them achieve success in their college career. Now, students are able to authorize designated parents and/or family members to view grades, academic schedule, and/or student financial information directly within myCurry.

**Students must request an account for a parent or family member:**

- Log into the myCurry portal
- Click on the myInfo tab
- Click on the myFamily access link

*Students who need assistance setting up myFamily access may call (617) 333-2911.*

# REQUIRED INSPIRED

## New Gen Ed Curriculum Provides Interdisciplinary Core

The Class of 2020 will be the first to experience Curry College's new General Education (Gen Ed) curriculum, which explores the liberal arts through a series of topical, relevant, real-world issues.

First-year inquiry seminars are small classes with maximum opportunity for meaningful engagement with faculty members and fellow students. In these seminars, students learn how to develop an e-portfolio, an important component of today's digital resume. Adding to that portfolio throughout their Curry career, students will graduate with a record of learning to show prospective employers.

Curry College developed this new curriculum with the needs of the workplace in mind. From first-ear courses in writing, math, and communication to sophomore- and junior-level courses in diversity and global interdependence, the Gen Ed curriculum provides the skills needed to succeed in an ever-changing world.

In the "breadth" section of the Gen Ed curriculum, students explore the arts, sciences, humanities, and social sciences while teaching students to communicate more effectively, consume information more critically, and work with numerical data more efficientl .

Gen Ed culminates with the junior year inquiry seminar, in which students again engage with faculty and each other in small classes about relevant, real-world issues. In this seminar, students will integrate the knowledge and skills acquired in Gen Ed with topics relevant to their selected major.

Along the way and as part of Gen Ed, students have both classroom and co-curricular opportunities to fulfill Wellness requirements, and engage in an active learning community. Opportunities may include studying abroad, doing an internship, participating in intercollegiate athletics, or taking a leadership role in campus organizations.



**"The learning outcomes of Gen Ed closely align with skills that employers say they are looking for in new graduates."**

"At Curry, the liberal arts-based courses required in our Gen Ed core curriculum are not something to get out of the way — they *are* the way," says Dr. Carrie Cokely, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. "They are the way to gain critical thinking skills, written and oral communication skills, and the ability to work in a team and make ethical judgments and decisions. These are the learning outcomes of Gen Ed, which closely align with skills that employers say they are looking for in new graduates."

## New Leadership Major Will Launch for Continuing Education Students

Curry College has enhanced its portfolio of undergraduate degree programs available to adult students through the addition of a new academic major — a Bachelor of Arts in Leadership. The Business Management department will launch the program in the fall of 2016. The launch of the new Leadership major reflects, in part, the progress of the College's Strategic Plan: *Values, Voices, Vision*, which has included new undergraduate majors in Accounting, Biochemistry, and Mobile Application Development.

The Leadership major is an interdisciplinary program designed through the collaboration of the College's Business Management, Communication, and Psychology departments. The program prepares students for supervisory management or administrative leadership positions, and will be offered initially through the College's continuing education division in an accelerated format to students who have an associate's degree or equivalent (60 earned college credits).

"The program allows students to improve critical thinking, problem solving, presentation, and communication skills, and to apply theory to management practice," says Tricia McConville, Associate Dean of Continuing and Graduate Studies. "It is a team-based, cohort program that culminates in a real-world action learning project demonstrating direct leadership experience."

The Leadership program will be offered in a hybrid delivery format that includes both in-class meetings and online assignments. Classes meet on campus one evening per week, and the program can be completed in 20 months.



## New Accounting Major Set to Launch in Fall 2016

As part of Curry College's Strategic Plan: *Values, Voices, Vision*, the Business Management department will launch a new Bachelor of Science in Accounting this fall. The program is structured to help

students build a strong foundation for accounting careers, including preparation for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) exam.

"The Accounting major is a valuable addition to Curry College's portfolio of pre-professional majors," says Dr. David Szczerbacki, Vice President of Academic Affairs. "The major provides preparation for professional careers in accounting as well as management track positions in a host of private, public, and nonprofit organizations."

The Accounting major offers a comprehensive background for employment or continued education at the graduate level. The program is designed to provide students with an in-depth knowledge of accounting practices while giving them the opportunity to analyze and discuss real-world accounting challenges. At least one internship is recommended to help students practice the theory of accounting in action and identify which sector of accounting they may be interested in.

"The Greater Boston area provides many potential opportunities for meaningful internships and for career options after graduation," says Professor Anthony Fabrizio, Chair of the Management Department. "Curry's Accounting degree program includes forensic and international accounting courses," notes Prof. Fabrizio, "courses which help provide our graduates an additional skill set as they enter the job market. The ultimate goal of the program is to prepare students to take the CPA exam and apply what they have learned."

Candidates with a CPA designation will have an advantage in the job market. According to the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, "employment of accountants and auditors is expected to grow 16 percent from 2010 to 2020."

## Refer a student to Curry College!

For more information about the Accounting major, prospective students may contact the Office of Admission at (617) 333-2210. For more information about the Leadership major, prospective students may contact the Office of Continuing and Graduate Studies at (617) 333-2364.

## Krista Selnau '09 Welcomes Class of 2019 at Academic Convocation



*“This is your journey  
to whoever you want  
to become ...”*

– Krista Selnau '09

L to R: Professor Julian Bryson, Krista Selnau '09, and President Kenneth K. Quigley, Jr. assemble before the Convocation ceremony.

Curry College President Kenneth K. Quigley, Jr., alumna and keynote speaker Krista Selnau '09, and several other Curry community representatives welcomed the Class of 2019 during Curry's New Student Academic Convocation on August 31, 2015.

The kickoff event of the new school year began as faculty and staff lined the walkway to the Student Center to applaud first-year students as they walked from North Campus across Westhaver Park for the ceremony. Faculty members, adorned in traditional academic regalia, then joined the processional into the Student Center gymnasium.

The Curry College Pure Vocals club delivered a rendition of the National Anthem, joined on stage by members of the Alexander Graham Bell Honor Society, before President Quigley delivered his “Welcome” message to the Class of 2019.

“As you become members of this great community ... my best advice to your success is simple. It comes down to four words: Get involved, stay involved. It will make all the difference.”

Student speaker and Communication major Lindsay Fedro Class of 2017 urged the incoming Class of 2019 to experience everything Curry has to offer.

“Don't be afraid to try new things. It is so important that you experience college in every way possible. You only have four years here, so try everything you can. Join a club, try out for a sports team, knock on your neighbor's door and say ‘Hello.’ College is all about experiencing new things and breaking out of your comfort zone. That's how you'll discover yourself.”

Faculty speaker Julian Bryson, Assistant Professor of Fine and Applied Arts, echoed some of the themes found in both the Curry College Mission Statement and the First-Year Common Read, *The Work: My Search for a Life that Matters* by Wes Moore.

“If your goal is to train for a job, then you are training for yesterday. Many of tomorrow's careers haven't even been invented yet. And this is why Curry has a central liberal arts curriculum ... that's where you will explore how physics, history, languages, culture, art, anatomy, and so many other subjects interact with each other regardless of your major. Having a better appreciation for the complexity and interconnectiveness of our world helps you prepare for whatever twists the future may send your way.”

In her keynote speech, alumna Krista Selnau — a Staff Attorney for Pine Tree Legal Assistance in Portland, Maine — shared her inspirational story of battling cancer as a young girl, leaving her with an amputated left leg. She said that despite the fear she felt after her diagnosis, she decided to push forward and deal with any adversity that came her way, an experience that she has used as motivation throughout her life. Recently, she climbed a mountain for the first time and used that experience as a metaphor of advice for the incoming students.

“This is your journey to whoever you want to become, to the things you dream of doing, to the adventures you've always imagined. But like any journey, you have to take the steps to get there. It won't happen on its own, but when you do take those steps, really cool things happen.”

Following the keynote speech, Vice President of Academic Affairs David Szczerbacki officially matriculated the members of the Class of 2019, who then stood proudly while Stephanie Ryan Class of 2016, Student Representative of the Alexander Graham Bell Honor Society, led the recitation of the Curry Class Oath.



Class of 2019 matriculants proceed to the Convocation ceremony.

⎵ To read more about Krista Selnau, visit [curry.edu/krista](http://curry.edu/krista) ⎵

## Institute on Learning Differences Gives Future Teachers a Unique Perspective

Renowned as a pioneer in the field of customizing educational experiences for students with learning differences, Curry College continues to provide innovative resources for the varied ways that students learn by helping future teachers build their expertise.

Curry professors Dr. Joanne Seltzer and Dr. Nancy Winbury recently collaborated to implement an interdisciplinary program for Curry undergraduates majoring in special education. The Institute on Learning Differences, a successful venture between the Education department and the Program for Advancement of Learning (PAL), gave students the opportunity to tap into the resources and knowledge of PAL faculty members and outside specialists to better understand the unique educational needs of students.

The Institute's intensive training featured online course readings and discussion throughout the semester, culminating in a two-day on-campus workshop in November 2015. At the workshop, teachers and parents presented on topics such as metacognition; language-based learning disability; the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process; nonverbal learning disability; behavior supports for Attention Deficit/ hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD); executive function disorder; Asperger's Syndrome and high-functioning autism; and English Language Learners with learning disabilities.

PAL faculty who contributed as presenters included Dr. Lynn Abrahams, Senior Lecturer Linda Camp, Dr. Patty Kean, Dr. Pat Mytkowicz, and Dr. Laura Vanderberg. The workshop format also allowed undergraduate students to share their own experiences with the resident experts. This approach replicated the type of professional development opportunities that professors and researchers take part in while at national conferences.

A parent panel offered perspectives on the day-to-day challenges in the lives of families who have one or more children

with special learning needs. Participants heard from parents with young and grown children on the autism spectrum and with nonverbal learning disorder. Attendees learned about community and homeschool support, parent advocacy, and the love and appreciation that parents have for their developing children.

"Following the parent panel, I gained an extreme amount of insight about home school-family-community interconnectedness," says Early Childhood Education and Integrated Liberal Studies major Kerin Danubio Class of 2016. "It was so beneficial for me to hear firsthand about the strategies that do and do not work with their children's learning experience."

Integrated Liberal Studies major Peyton Smith '15 says, "When students become engaged in their own learning and every student has access to the materials and curriculum, students will be successful and develop a passion for learning."

"Curry is known globally as a college that fully supports students with learning differences, primarily through its PAL program," said Dr. Seltzer. "The Education department teaches future teachers to become experts in learning differences, and in the teaching and learning process."

"PAL, which began at Curry in 1970, was pioneering at the time," added Dr. Winbury. "It has grown to provide structured support and assistance to college-able students with specific learning disabilities, ADHD, and/or Executive Function difficulties. The program continues to innovate with developments such as the Institute, keeping pace with the rapidly changing world of special education."

Student response to the Institute was very positive, with attendees describing the topics and readings as engaging, informative, and thought provoking. Due to the program's popularity and positive impact, plans are under development for the College to offer the Institute annually to third-year Education students.



## New iPad Initiative Allows 24/7 Access to Adaptive Technology

As part of an innovative program debuting this fall, Class of 2020 students in the Program for Advancement of Learning (PAL) will benefit from the use of a Curry College iPad while enrolled in the PAL program. Students will design a customized learning platform with the guidance of learning, information literacy, and assistive technology specialists as part of their PAL coursework. This initiative gives the PAL students 24/7 mobile access to cutting-edge adaptive technology, including: voice activated Dragon Apps, text-to-speech e-reader Kurzweil 3000/Firefl, and note taking programs such as OneNote, Evernote, and Notability.

Students will be able to access a curated selection of apps and training to manage their educational career, and will also share digital study spaces with classmates and PAL professors through Web-based platforms.

PAL is a structured support program at Curry providing assistance to bright, college-able students with specific learning disabilities and/or ADHD. It is the country's longest-standing college program for students with learning differences, and continues as the premier faculty-led department integrating research, theory, and practice for student-centered instruction.

# Katz Gymnasium Named in Honor of Dr. Eleanor Meyerhoff Katz



L to R: President Kenneth K. Quigley, Jr. presents a commemorative gift to Walter M. Katz '89.



President Quigley kicks off the dedication ceremony in the Student Center Athletic Hall of Champions.

Homecoming and Family Weekend 2015 came to a close on Sunday, September 27, with a special event as the Student Center Gymnasium was named for Dr. Eleanor Meyerhoff Katz, Hon. '00, during a dedication ceremony in the Student Center Hall of Champions.

The event was attended by members of the Katz family and the Curry community, including alumnus Walter M. Katz '89, President Kenneth K. Quigley, Jr. and Academic



Members of the extended Katz family, joined by family friends, reunited to celebrate the naming of the Dr. Eleanor Meyerhoff Katz Gymnasium.



Dr. Eleanor Meyerhoff Katz, Hon. '00.



Vice President Emeritus Dr. David A. Fedo, who spoke about the lasting impact of Dr. Katz. Head Coaches and student leaders from Men's and Women's Basketball, as well as Women's Volleyball were also in attendance.

Dr. Eleanor Meyerhoff Katz served as a member of the Curry College Board of Trustees in the early- to mid-1990s, was the Board's Chairperson in 1993 and 1994, and was recognized with an honorary degree in 2000.

An effective leader, an expressive communicator, and a generous benefactor, Dr. Katz's many contributions to Curry College had a significant impact on our institutional success. The naming of the Dr. Eleanor Meyerhoff Katz Gymnasium serves as a fitting tribute to a true champion of Curry College.



L to R: Peyton Katz, Emily Davidovic, Madison Davidovic, Jacey Katz, Jacob Katz, and Tom Katz.



L to R: Walter M. Katz, Cheryl Katz, and President Kenneth K. Quigley, Jr.

# From the Blue Hills to the Back Bay

*by Randi Kravitz*

Anyone who's visited Boston's famous Newbury Street over the years has seen numerous stores and businesses come and go. One person with a front-row seat to the transformation has been helping to bring new companies to it for nearly 30 years: Tom Brennan '84, vice president of C. Talanian Realty at 137 Newbury Street.



After graduating from Curry College in 1984 with a degree in Business Management, Tom worked for Century 21 Real Estate, before joining Talanian as a commercial real estate broker in 1987. He has sold millions of dollars of Boston properties, and about 90 percent of his sales are on Newbury Street.

The first time Tom came to the famed thoroughfare was to pick up a Brooks Brothers suit for a Curry classmate, back in the early 1980s. More than 30 years later, 2014 was his biggest sales year, and the year that *The Boston Business Journal* called Tom “The King of Newbury Street.”

His favorite area of the street is the third and fourth block, between Clarendon and Exeter. He mentions Met Bar, Stephanie’s, and Joe’s as treasured places to grab a bite, as well as popular stores like Levi’s that don’t have the couture image of others located at the lower-numbered end of the street.

Tom volunteers in the neighborhood frequently, was vice president of the Newbury Street League for 10 years, and recently joined the board of the Back Bay Association. Tom also spearheaded the original movement to get the street’s tree bases and surrounding areas maintained for a more impressive look and safer walking experience.

There was no doubt in Tom’s mind, even from a young age, that he wanted to be in real estate. He used to go on house showings with his grandfather, who was in the real estate field, and he found it exciting to look at buildings. “The architectural detail ... all the different variables in any type of property, even commercial property: Does it have a really nice lobby, are the elevators nice, is the roof a slate roof, does it have a roof deck, what’s its view? There’s so many different variables. It’s fun to find out which ones resonate positively and which ones negatively with buyers.”

Tom started selling real estate in his home state of New Jersey in the early 1980s, when interest rates were high at 18 to 19 percent. The first year, he didn’t sell a thing, but got a solid lesson in some basics — make sure you get the customer’s name, get them into the property as soon as possible, remember the customer is always right, and treat administrative assistants with the utmost respect.

That last piece of advice came in handy later in his career, when an assistant of Herb Chambers helped Tom get a meeting with the car dealership guru, which led to Newbury Street’s first “Fashion’s Night Out” in 2011.

“I told him I needed funding to close down Newbury Street, and how it would benefit him — when the street was closed down, we would display all his cars on the street. We did it, and it was a huge hit.”

Continued on page 12



“I don’t think I would have been as successful as I am if it wasn’t for Curry. And all of my best friends, lifelong friends, are my college friends.”

Tom Brennan ’84

Newbury Street has gone through extensive changes in the nearly 30 years Tom has been selling property there, and so has Tom. He struggled a bit with reading and test taking in high school, and Tom's experience at Curry was instrumental in making his real estate dreams a reality. Through PAL, the Program for Advancement of Learning, Tom learned to use his strengths and be more productive during exams.

"I used to be so anxious about exams," says Tom. "I never thought I was going to pass the state real estate exam the first time, but I did, and I got my real estate license."

Curry was a pioneer in the field for students with learning differences, in 1970 becoming the first college in the country to offer a program like PAL. Students in the program receive additional support, developing strategies to improve reading, writing, speaking, listening, organizational, and time management skills.

Although reading wasn't initially a strength for Tom, a reading assignment at Curry developed into a daily habit that continues even now. "I love to read the front page of *The Wall Street Journal* every day," says Tom. "Dr. Werthheimer, a professor at Curry, made us subscribe to *The Wall Street Journal*. He would quiz us on what the current events were on the front page, and it's something that stuck with me for life."

Tom also fondly remembers PAL's founder, the late Dr. Gertrude Webb, with whom he shared a birthdate.

"My sophomore year at Curry, Dr. Webb was looking outside the college to hire somebody to run the PAL Library from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. every night," recalls Tom. "And I told her I wanted that job. She said, 'I like your spunk, I'll give it to you for a two-month trial basis.' After the two months, she said, 'You've done a great job, it's your job.' It was wonderful, because when I was working in the Library, I could also be studying. So it was a great experience for me."

Tom cites PAL program features such as extended test-taking time, books on tape, guidance on note-taking skills, and supportive faculty as being very helpful during his time at Curry, especially during that crucial first year.

"I don't think I would have been as successful as I am if it wasn't for Curry. Some of my friends were in the PAL program, some of them weren't. And all of my best friends, lifelong friends, are my college friends."

Tom offers practical advice for students with learning disabilities looking to choose a college and career path.

"I think you have to be realistic with whatever your learning disability might be. If you have a hard time reading, then you probably shouldn't pick a career where that's what you're going to be doing constantly. I always knew I was more of a personality person, and so sales was just a natural fit for me. I've always been a good salesman. I've always liked selling, and talking to people."

As successful as Tom's sales career on Newbury Street has been, he acknowledges that, in time, turning a corner is a natural part of life.

"My high school yearbook quote, which was from Supertramp, was, 'It was early morning yesterday, and I was up before the dawn, I really have enjoyed my stay, but I must be moving on.' And that's sort of how I feel with different things in life because nothing's permanent. You always have to realize that, even your best job, it's not going to last forever."

To college seniors about to move on to the next chapter of their lives, Tom says not to be worried about a first job.

"Don't think that you have to find the perfect first job, because a lot of people don't. As long as you get a job, you'll have some experience behind you, and just keep a positive attitude."

Tom's own optimistic attitude and fun-loving personality have certainly helped him reach his goals. If you're looking for him, you might start by taking a walk down Newbury Street. But you may be just as likely to find Tom at lunch around the corner, skiing in New Hampshire, at a golf weekend, or playing backgammon at a pal's house. When you do track him down, there's an excellent chance he'll be spending time with one of his many friends from Curry College.

Visit [curry.edu/magazine](http://curry.edu/magazine) to watch video about Tom's Curry College experience.



# Entrepreneurial Dreams

*“Dare to do what you dream.”*  
– Samuel Silas Curry

When Curry College’s co-founder Samuel Silas Curry proclaimed “Dare to do what you dream,” he added, “You can become, by perseverance, what you long to be.” What makes certain people more suited to starting their own business, then persevering to let it grow and develop? It’s certainly more than just passion or the desire to be in charge. Willingness to take risks and embrace the unknown is the key.

Here we profile four driven, motivated alumni who are in various stages of building their companies: Tasha (McQueen) Bracken ’92, Daniel Anthony ’05, Michael Mohrin ’06, and Jonny Arakelian ’13. All have a vision for the future and plenty of experience with adapting to change. All worked in other disciplines before creating their own business based on their strongest interests and skills. And while each of these Curry grads is an entrepreneur, they also credit dedicated co-workers (and in some cases, co-founders) who have helped them launch their dream companies.

The entrepreneurial spirit is alive and well at Curry. Opportunities for students to integrate classroom learning with experiential learning during college can be an ideal springboard for business dreams. Seeds of an idea planted in a class or internship often grow after graduates get even more “real-world” experience behind them.

The alumni we’ve profiled here also happen to be into healthy living and fitness, which made us wonder, does an active lifestyle go with an active business? Jonny’s company is based on a fitness app, Michael continues to stay in shape as a basketball player, Tasha loves to work out, and Daniel works with a personal trainer who is also one of his customers (and his juice bar’s second location is inside a gym). As busy as they are with their businesses, each finds the time to make their overall wellness a priority.

Whether you’re daydreaming in dance class, imagining a great retail idea while using the bench press, or envisioning your business plan on your morning run, we congratulate and are inspired by everyone who follows their dreams.

**TELL US ABOUT THE BUSINESS YOU LAUNCHED:**

 [Tweet@CurryEdu](https://twitter.com/CurryEdu) #myCurrymyBiz

Visit [curry.edu/magazine](http://curry.edu/magazine) to watch video and hear more from some of our entrepreneurs.



Tasha (McQueen) Bracken '92

# All in the Details

by Randi Kravitz

**R**unning your own company is a bit like running a big event — there are plenty of details to keep track of, and one person is ultimately responsible for the outcome. As the founder and principal event producer at Simple Details Events (SD Events) in Wellesley, Tasha (McQueen) Bracken '92 knows this firsthand

SD Events, which Tasha started in 2002, plans social and corporate functions, fully customizing each event. As the head of a small company, Tasha's role encompasses virtually everything, from overseeing strategic planning with clients and running events on-site to answering the phone and purchasing office supplies

"People have this image of J. Lo in *The Wedding Planner*, which is probably one of the most popular wedding movies, and people feel like it's such a glamorous job. But once you get into it, it's a lot of hard work, and at the end of the day, your feet hurt!"

Jessie Almeida, a Curry student in the Class of 2018, interned for Tasha in the summer of 2015.

"Our interns really get a lot of experience," says Tasha. "They're hands-on. Everything from going to a client meeting to drafting production schedules for us, they get a

sense of the entire event and then are able to work it. Jessie was very enthusiastic about the industry and learning what's involved."

SD Events helps several nonprofit organizations such as the Italian Home for Children and the Melanoma Foundation of New England, a cause that is particularly rewarding to Tasha as a melanoma survivor. SD Events is also a founding member of the Feeding Our Neighbors initiative through the National Association of Catering and Events, where Tasha is on the board. With the support of the Emerson Act, they collaborate with venues and clients to donate leftover food from events to those in need.

In addition to giving back to the community, one of Tasha's priorities is solving problems for her clients seamlessly. This often means ensuring that an exhausted bride worries about absolutely nothing on her wedding day.

"Every situation has an answer," says Tasha. "It's just figuring out what that solution might be. And it may not be perfect, and it may not be what the original vision was, but you have to be able to adapt and move forward."

Prior to launching SD Events, Tasha worked for a public relations agency in Cambridge, where she used writing and PR skills honed as a Communication major at Curry College. She discovered that she truly enjoyed planning and executing product launch events for the agency, which steered her career toward event planning.

Tasha was naturally drawn to help her classmates plan a recent reunion. Says Tasha, "It was great to get people from our class, some who hadn't been there since graduation. And when they came on campus they were amazed at the transformation."

Another successful event!



Jessie Almeida, a Curry student, worked as an intern for Tasha.



Tasha helped to plan a successful reunion for the Class of 1992.

# Smoothie SAILING

by Randi Kravitz

**W**hen Daniel Anthony '05 was a kid and people asked him what he wanted to do, he didn't say he wanted to be a fi eman, or go to space. He said, "I want to own a restaurant." It's always been a dream of his, and now he's doing it.

Graduating from Curry College with a degree in Business Management helped to make Daniel's childhood dreams come true: He opened Vela Juice Bar at 71 Court St. in Plymouth with co-owner Ana Dabrowski, his friend from Plymouth North High School. The name *Vela*, which rhymes with *Bella*, means "sails of a ship" in Latin.

Both Daniel and Ana love to sail, but they're too busy working seven days a week to spend much time on the water since they opened Vela, where juices, smoothies, and healthy food options are made fresh daily. All items on the menu — lunch, breakfast, dinner, snacks — are raw and vegan, including salads, wraps, hummus, açai bowls, chia seed pudding, and "overnight oatmeal."

Nearly every ingredient at Vela is grown or made locally, though some tropical fruits such as pineapples and mangoes come from places where many of us wish we were sailing. Some of the menu items

have local, ocean themes (such as the 1620, Sailors Delight, and Brown's Bank Sunset). And the handmade bar is made of teak and holly, the same woods often used on sailboats.

Why did the longtime friends dive into business together in their hometown? "We both were working jobs that required us to either travel or have awful commutes," says Daniel. "We decided we wanted to do something to feel like part of the community, as opposed to bettering other communities and then going home."

Local residents and tourists alike are enjoying the juicy addition to the town. Says Daniel, "There's an atmosphere that's very much like going out to dinner at a bar. There are seats, and we have regulars that stay and talk."

In Vela's first year, Daniel and Ana hired fi e employees ("they're as dedicated to the business as we are," says Daniel), opened a satellite location in local gym Live Life Believe, and debuted their juice and smoothie truck at the Plymouth Thanksgiving Day Parade. You'll see the smoothie-mobile at many events throughout the South Shore this spring.

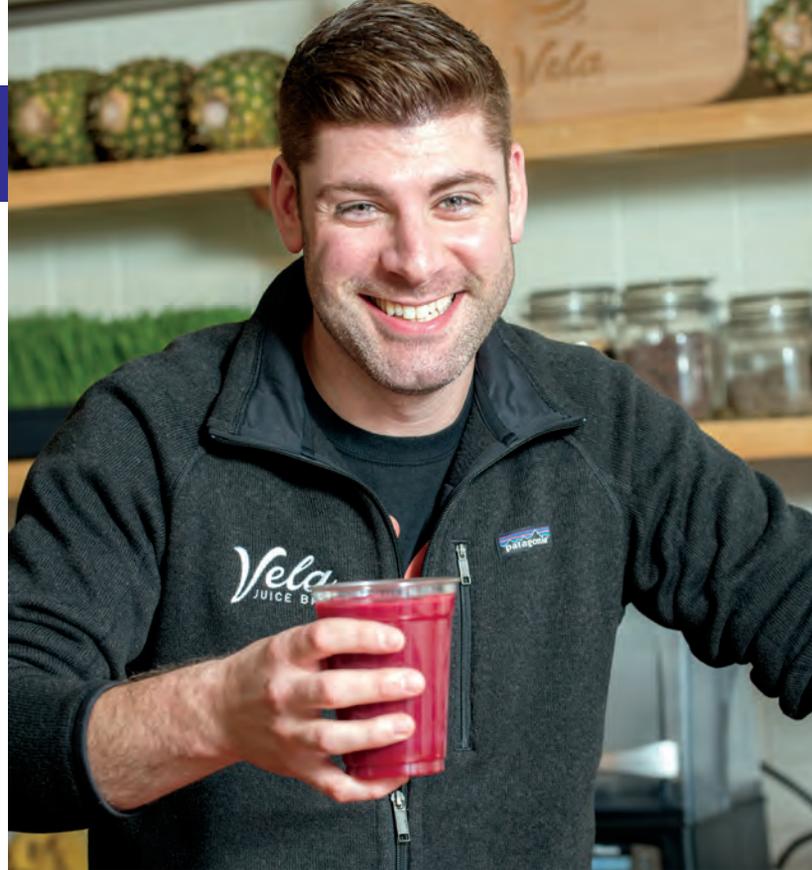
While at Curry College, Daniel interned for a small bread-making company in

Hyde Park, where he had increasing responsibility over about two years and learned a substantial amount about running a business. He believes that students usually get out of college what they put into it. "At Curry, I learned a lot about myself and other people, and that helped me learn how to achieve my goals."

After graduating from Curry, Daniel worked for Trader Joe's as a manager for almost seven years, helping to open new stores. Following that, he attended culinary school in Connecticut and did an internship at Sweet Basil, an Italian restaurant in Needham. Before opening Vela, he also earned his real estate license in Boston.

All of Daniel's life experiences led him to where he is today — busy but happy. "Probably the best thing about being an entrepreneur is that I get to decide what I want to do. And I know that what I'm doing I like. It's also amazing how many new friendships and relationships I've gained from this, both employees and customers," says Daniel.

"The most challenging thing is the unknown. You really have to trust that what you are doing will be well received. I think that with every step that we've taken, when it seems like it's scary, it usually means we're doing something right."



Daniel Anthony '05 and Vela's co-owner Ana Dabrowski are happy to be working in their hometown.



Michael Mohrin '06

# Best Foot Forward

by Jess Brandi '13

Some of our biggest questions, concerns, ideas, and moves revolve around it. Its path may be clear, or may comprise twists and turns. Sometimes it stays the same, and sometimes it undergoes many changes. It is your career.

Michael Mohrin '06 gets it. And that's why he created Candidate Advisors, a national employment advisory firm that prepares, educates, and informs people on how to secure employment and advance their careers.

After working as a recruiter for eight years, Michael became well acquainted with the enjoyment that came with placing a candidate in a perfect position. What he wasn't as prepared for was the difficulties of letting others know that they were not so lucky. He had a vision for a better way.

"I would interview and look at resumes for about 100 different candidates, and companies would look for that one unicorn to find and hire," says Michael. "I decided to start the company because I was only helping that one person who got the job, but those other 99 people who didn't get the job — I wanted to help them too. And I decided what better way to do that than to create a company where we could coach them through interviews, help with their resume, improve their weaknesses and turn them into strengths."

*"I thought the best way for me to get the most value to different people was to try innovative ways, and being an entrepreneur has allowed me to do that."*

Candidate Advisors prides itself on helping to navigate the smooth and not-so-smooth waters of a career. Serving clients all throughout the United States, their services include resume building, cover letter writing, LinkedIn profile creation, situational coaching, and more.

With a background in recruiting paired with strong ties to employers throughout the northeast and beyond, Michael is able to utilize his experience and knowledge in order to shape someone into the best candidate for specific companies and positions. "On a day-to-day basis, we work with companies that have struggles with bringing candidates in, we are aware of their struggles and work to change them," he adds.

Innovation is at the forefront of all business strategizing that takes place at Candidate Advisors. In fact, the ability to implement new ideas and try new approaches is one of the primary reasons Michael decided to create his company. "I found out that a lot of companies that I worked for had a very traditional model for growing their business. Everything has changed now; technology has come so far, there are new ways to go

about hiring people. I thought the best way for me to get the most value to different people was to try innovative ways, and being an entrepreneur has allowed me to do that," Michael explains.

High achievement and hard work have always been part of Michael's character.

After being recruited for basketball, Michael joined the Curry College Men's Basketball team in 2002 and became one of the College's lead scorers, racking up 1,060 points over the course of four years.

As a student-athlete, he was always cognizant of all the attributes that made him successful both on and off the court — time management, teamwork, balance, prioritization, to name a few — all of which have added great value to his role as CEO.

One word that describes Michael's experience at Curry? Rewarding.

"It was very rewarding. I've gotten a lot from Curry College and I hope to give back a lot, too."

# The ladder to Health

by Jess Brandi '13



"I'm a big believer in innovation and disruption," Jonny Arakelian '13 says with a smile.

Jonny, co-founder and vice president of Ladder, and his team have created a new health and wellness platform that aims to transform the way the fitness industry approaches health.

Ladder is app-based software that connects users with a carefully matched fitness coach who will support and guide clients toward health goals. The app is scheduled to launch this spring for both iOS and Android.

Jonny and co-founders Brett Maloley (CEO) and Alex Karsos (vice president of producer success) identified the need for Ladder when they realized that the majority of fitness apps were designed to replace personal trainers instead of utilize them. The three came together to develop a platform business model that would optimize user accessibility and accountability, and ultimately lead users to greater success reaching fitness goals

"A platform business model facilitates exchanges between two or more user groups," Jonny explains. "For example, Uber is a platform model that has producers (drivers) and users (riders). Ladder's model features producers — fitness coaches and users, who in this case are the clients looking to optimize health. Platform

*"Even as a little kid, I always aspired to be like my father and to one day own my own business."*

business models have a tremendous ability to scale and acquire users."

Working in sync with the fitness industry, constituents will be able to access a fitness coach for about 1/20 of the average price of a personal trainer. "We feel that roughly 75% of a personal trainer or health and wellness professional's value can be productized through technology, which reduces the cost greatly for the users, but also drives significant value to the health and wellness professional."

Ladder's unique match-making process between coach and client intends to set it apart from other fitness apps currently available. In partnership with their advisory group, Jonny and the Ladder team determined four primary areas where health obstacles originate from: fitness, nutrition, sleep, and stress management. To pinpoint an individual's personal hindrance, they designed a strategic process.

"When a user signs up for the platform, they are taken through a CBT (cognitive behavioral therapy) questionnaire to

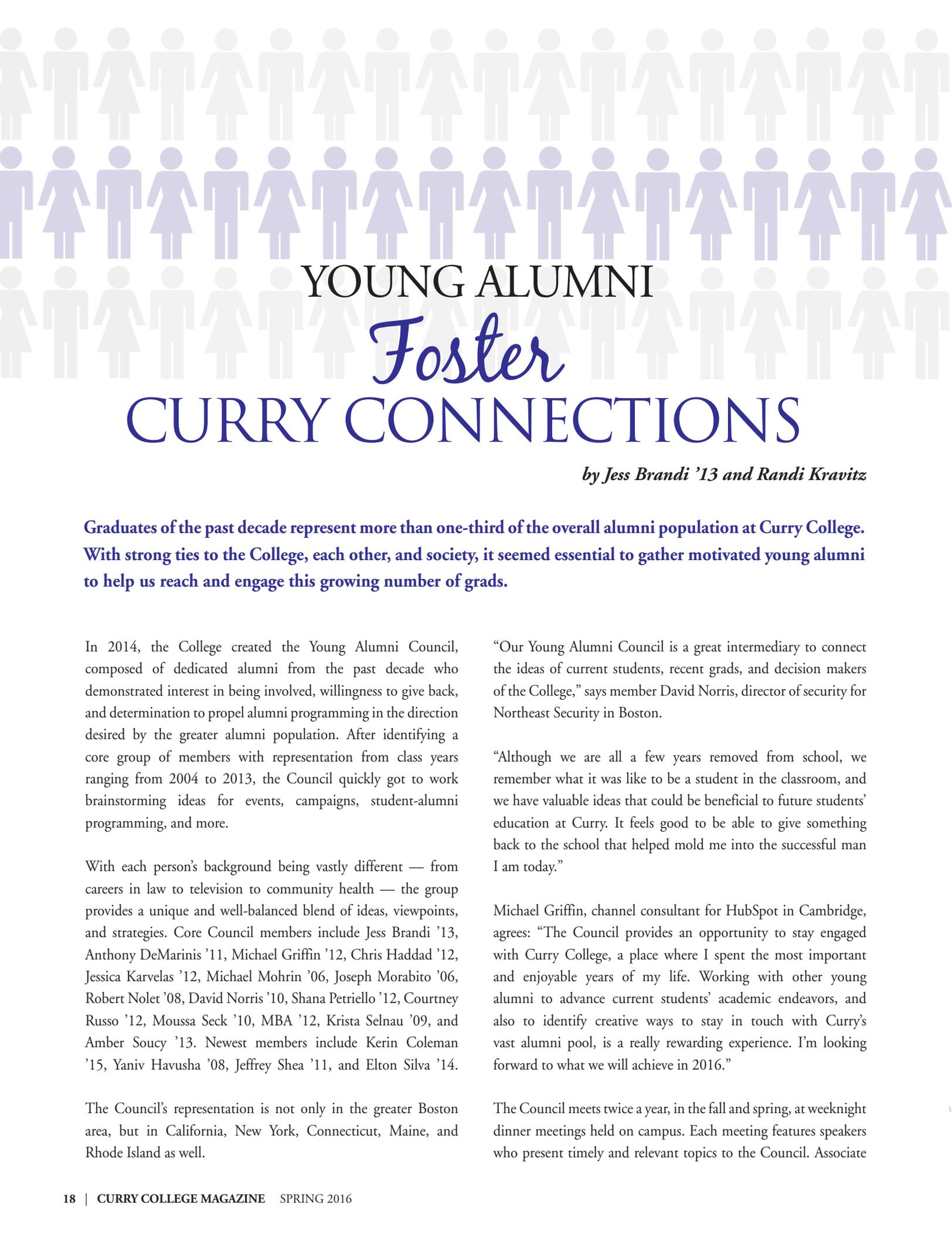
discover true obstacles. From there, we use that data and a geocentric match-making strategy to make the best match possible between user and coach."

Entrepreneurship was a natural career choice for Jonny after growing up with his father, Charles Arakelian, Sr., who is the owner of a third-generation business. "Even as a little kid, I always aspired to be like my father and to one day own my own business," he recounts.

As a Management major, Jonny credits much of his success as an individual and a professional to his experience and interpersonal connections made at Curry.

Jonny's advice to students is, "Embrace change and the unknown. I thought I wanted to build homes for a living and clearly that's not the case. And I think that's the beauty of life itself — you never really know what you want to do until you go out and do it."

"Climbing the ladder" is about to take on a whole new meaning.



# YOUNG ALUMNI *Foster* CURRY CONNECTIONS

*by Jess Brandi '13 and Randi Kravitz*

**Graduates of the past decade represent more than one-third of the overall alumni population at Curry College. With strong ties to the College, each other, and society, it seemed essential to gather motivated young alumni to help us reach and engage this growing number of grads.**

In 2014, the College created the Young Alumni Council, composed of dedicated alumni from the past decade who demonstrated interest in being involved, willingness to give back, and determination to propel alumni programming in the direction desired by the greater alumni population. After identifying a core group of members with representation from class years ranging from 2004 to 2013, the Council quickly got to work brainstorming ideas for events, campaigns, student-alumni programming, and more.

With each person's background being vastly different — from careers in law to television to community health — the group provides a unique and well-balanced blend of ideas, viewpoints, and strategies. Core Council members include Jess Brandi '13, Anthony DeMarinis '11, Michael Griffin '12, Chris Haddad '12, Jessica Karvelas '12, Michael Mohrin '06, Joseph Morabito '06, Robert Nolet '08, David Norris '10, Shana Petriello '12, Courtney Russo '12, Moussa Seck '10, MBA '12, Krista Selnau '09, and Amber Soucy '13. Newest members include Kerin Coleman '15, Yaniv Havusha '08, Jeffrey Shea '11, and Elton Silva '14.

The Council's representation is not only in the greater Boston area, but in California, New York, Connecticut, Maine, and Rhode Island as well.

“Our Young Alumni Council is a great intermediary to connect the ideas of current students, recent grads, and decision makers of the College,” says member David Norris, director of security for Northeast Security in Boston.

“Although we are all a few years removed from school, we remember what it was like to be a student in the classroom, and we have valuable ideas that could be beneficial to future students' education at Curry. It feels good to be able to give something back to the school that helped mold me into the successful man I am today.”

Michael Griffin, channel consultant for HubSpot in Cambridge, agrees: “The Council provides an opportunity to stay engaged with Curry College, a place where I spent the most important and enjoyable years of my life. Working with other young alumni to advance current students' academic endeavors, and also to identify creative ways to stay in touch with Curry's vast alumni pool, is a really rewarding experience. I'm looking forward to what we will achieve in 2016.”

The Council meets twice a year, in the fall and spring, at weeknight dinner meetings held on campus. Each meeting features speakers who present timely and relevant topics to the Council. Associate



Back row, L to R: Robert Nolet '08, Elton Silva '14, Michael Griffin '12, David Norris '10, Chris Haddad '12, and Yaniv Havusha '08. Front row, L to R: Jess Brandi '13, Jessica Karvelas '12, Courtney Russo '12, Amber Soucy '13, Shana Petriello '12, and Moussa Seck '10 MBA '12. Not pictured: Kerin Coleman '15, Anthony DeMarinis '11, Michael Mohrin '06, Joseph Morabito '06, Krista Selnau '09, and Jeffrey Shea '11.

Vice President of Student Affairs Allison O'Connor spoke about connecting students with alumni and developing educational but fun philanthropic programming to students, and Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs Carrie Cokely spoke to the Council about new academic initiatives and programs.

Kerrie Aborn and Tracy Nowak from the Center for Career Development were the featured speakers at the September 2015 Council meeting, where they discussed the launch of Curry Connections, a mentoring program developed in part by the Council. The program helps students learn and prepare for professional life by connecting them with alumni, and gives them the opportunity to explore career pathways through informational interviewing, networking, conversation, and observation.

The first event with the Council's support was the Young Alumni Winter Mixer held in January 2015, where a sold-out crowd of 150 grads from the classes of 2004 through 2014 packed the reserved main floor of Game On in Boston. This event was followed by a Networking Night on campus in April 2015, and the Memory Lane Campaign event at Tia's in Boston in September 2015. The Council is busy making plans for other events this year.

If you graduated within the past 10 years and are interested in joining the Council, please fill out the form at [curry.edu/alumni/volunteer](http://curry.edu/alumni/volunteer). Council members should have a strong interest in optimizing the alumni experience, enhancing the College's visibility, and perpetuating Curry's mission.

{ For information about ways to stay involved with Curry, visit  
[curry.edu/alumni](http://curry.edu/alumni) }

Nicole Graves '06

# Steps to SUCCESS

by Randi Kravitz



**D**o librarians wear black suede high-heeled pumps? Shoe librarians sometimes do.

Nicole “Nikki” Graves, a 2006 Visual Arts graduate of Curry College, oversees the library of shoe samples and does a whole lot more in her job as Global Quality Assurance Specialist at the Rockport Group in Canton, about 10 minutes down the road from her alma mater.

“I basically get the front-row seat to what’s going to come out the next season,” Nikki says about the Rockport shoe library. “If we need to look at something, if there’s an issue arising in the markets, then we can pull it and then take a look at that, what it’s supposed to look like.”

Nikki and her colleagues receive shoe shipments from factories, and they make sure that every aspect of each shoe matches the standard they

keep in the library racks. She feels that her career thus far has taken a bit of a “head to toe” path: In her role at Bureau Veritas, a consumer product testing lab, Nikki reviewed clothes and other textiles, and as a product safety specialist for Fiesta Jewelry, she worked with accessories.

Now in the world of shoes at Rockport, Nikki’s “right-hand man” is fellow Curry alum Adam Gittleston, a 2013 Business Management grad, who collaborates with her and other employees to monitor quality and report any problems with the footwear. The alumni literally work side by side at their desks, in the shoe library, and in the “cage” — an area filled with lasts (custom foot-shaped forms that are the foundation for a shoe’s design, comfort, function, fit, and construction)

In addition to spotting potential safety and quality problems, Nikki recommends aesthetic improvements in the shoes, thanks to her eye for color and design. Being able to work hand in hand with the designers, and to see issues start early, reminds Nikki of her studio days at Curry.

“When we do the reviews for the shoes, I always think back to sitting in studio class at Curry, where we’d critique everyone’s art pieces ... One of my professors, Laurie Alpert, would always say that critiques are not something to be taken personally. In fact they help you progress and make something good, even better.”

Her arts experience clearly helped Nikki in her career, and she encourages anyone considering an Arts major to consider the many paths for post-college success.

“Honestly, there’s so many different things that you wouldn’t necessarily think as being related to Visual Arts,” she says. “If you’re doing something that you love, it can be transferred into pretty much anything you do. Without getting a degree ... I couldn’t have this position. And a lot of different things I was able to do I wouldn’t have been able to. I’m just so grateful that I’ve had the opportunity to be in college, and succeed.”

About those pumps that Nikki prefers: “Rockport is famous for having sport technology within a pump, so you can stand on a shoe, and it feels like you’re standing on a cloud, essentially. They call it the ‘Seven to 7’ so technically you can wear it from 7 in the morning to 7 at night, and it feels fantastic.”

For a woman running around as much as Nikki, sensible yet fashionable shoes are a perfect fit

**Want to read the extended version of Nikki’s story and watch a video about her? Go to [curry.edu/magazine](http://curry.edu/magazine)**



L to R: Nicole Graves '06 and Adam Gittleston '13.

“**H**elping patients gain access to their prescribed medicine and navigate the reimbursement process is what inspires me to go to work every day.”

Shana Petriello came to Curry College for its acclaimed Nursing program, and her experience on a 2010 Alternative Spring Break trip made her aware of disparities in health care. Upon returning to campus, her soul-searching helped her realize she wanted to dedicate herself to the bigger health care picture, and she hoped she wouldn't have to leave her beloved school to do it.

Working closely with advisors and mentors at Curry, Shana changed her major. She graduated in 2012 with a degree in Community Health & Wellness, and minors in Biology and Communications — a background that helped lead her on a path to career satisfaction.

Shana knows how lucky she is to truly love her job as an Associate Case Manager at Vertex Pharmaceuticals, and a Curry connection helped her find the position. At a 2014 Memorial Day barbecue with other Curry graduates, Jessica Karvelas '12 (a fellow member of the Young Alumni Council, see story on page 18) told Shana about a role at Vertex that turned out to be a great fit for her experience and her dedication to helping people.

“Vertex is a biotech company and has two medicines that are approved by the FDA. My job is to work with patients who have been prescribed those medicines by their doctors to help them obtain and maintain their access to those medicines,” says Shana. She connects patients and their families with appropriate resources, helping them navigate reimbursement challenges and providing product support.

“To hear stories from patients is just something that not everyone has the opportunity to have. And because I do, I feel very fortunate,” she says. “I think that's why I take my work so seriously and I love what



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# Nursing Communities

## *Back to Health*

### Shana Petriello '12

*by Randi Kravitz*

.....

I do ... to be involved with someone's life in that way is really special.” Shana also works with many health care providers to help ensure patients get the medication they have been prescribed or to answer questions about the medication itself.

Between the time she graduated from Curry and joined Vertex, Shana earned a master's degree in Public Health at UMass Amherst and worked as a research assistant at Caring Health Center in Springfield. Although she started there as a data specialist, Shana took the initiative to learn new skills, and her manager allowed her to move forward on new health care access projects for the local community, including a health fair, HIV testing clinics, and refugee outreach.

While in graduate school, Shana was a teaching assistant for the course “My Body, My Health.” Teaching first-ear and sophomore students at 8 a.m. each Friday was a challenge Shana met with her usual high level of optimism and energy. The course reminded her of her favorite Curry classes, since there were only about 30 students — in contrast to the 500-person lectures more common at UMass. It didn't take too long for Shana's students to share her enthusiasm for the subject. “When you're excited about something, I find that other people will just inherently mirror your behavior,” she says.

Back when she was still a student at Curry, Shana interned as a marketing assistant for Medical Record Associates, analyzing health care sites in New England. When that project ended, the company asked Shana to work in health information management for Newton-Wellesley Hospital. There she helped to give patients and their health care providers appropriate access to health records, ensuring strict patient privacy. That focus at Newton-Wellesley helped to build a strong foundation for her current position at Vertex.

Shana credits her job interviewing success with skills practiced in Curry's Experiential Learning course through the Center for Career Development, with additional help from her Communication classes. “Sharon Sinnott's infinite wisdom went beyond the classroom, and I think I can say that for so many of the Curry professors. Professor Sinnott in particular and Katherine Morrison ... and I can still reach out to either of them.”

Shana has advice for job hunters: “Apply to everything that you're qualified for. Be persistent within reason, follow up on things, and send thank you notes. Learn how to differentiate yourself and set yourself apart. And just go in there prepared.”



## Homecoming and Family Weekend 2015

*Fun was in the air as alumni, families, friends, and fans were welcomed to the 2015 Curry College Homecoming and Family Weekend, September 25–27. Visitors were treated to a bevy of events and activities, including a Friday Night Lights football game, a fall festival, alumni reunions, and much more!*

The weekend literally kicked off with a matchup between the Colonels Football team and the visiting Western New England University Golden Bears, on a crisp, fall night under the bright lights of Katz Field.

Before game time, fans and families took part in pregame festivities including tailgating and the Alumni/Family Hospitality Tent, which included chili and chowder, Curry bookstore gear and memorabilia, and giveaways.

On Saturday, families of current students had a chance to meet with faculty members for the annual Family/Faculty breakfast in the Student Center. Afterward, many attended academic, alumni, and campus life forums hosted by Curry faculty, alumni, and students. Presentations included “Caretaking to Coaching: Transition Reality Check,” “Student Involvement,” and “Inside the

New Virtual Studio” with Communication Professor Jerry Gibbs.

Saturday’s events included Men’s and Women’s Soccer NCAA Division III matches. Men’s Lacrosse, Women’s Lacrosse, and Softball also hosted inter-squad games in which alumni of their respective programs were invited to participate.

Another highlight of the day was the annual Fall Fest, held outside the Student Center in Westhaver Park. Students and families gathered on a perfect fall afternoon under sunny skies. The festival included a dress-up photo booth, pumpkin decorating, a performance by the Curry Dance team, and lots of fall-themed food and drink, including candy apples and apple cider. In what has become an ongoing tradition at Homecoming and Family Weekend, alumna Lisa Bello ’04 and her band performed for the crowd.



Fans of Colonels football, soccer, and lacrosse gathered to cheer on their teams at the Walter M. Katz field during homecoming and family weekend



SAVE THE DATE  
**HOMECOMING 2016**  
**Family Weekend**  
**October 21-23**



*Family, Friends, Fall, and Fun!*



Alumni from classes on the 5s and 0s reunited on Homecoming Weekend, including the group above, that shared a moment with President Quigley on the patio at the Keith Alumni House during the reunion reception.

Throughout the weekend there were several Curry alumni reunions. There were separate receptions for alums of the football program and for the classes of '50, '55, '60, '65, '70, '75, '80, '85, '90, '95, '00, '05, and '10, held at the Keith Alumni House.

The Memory Lane Campaign Celebration, which took place off campus at Tia's Restaurant and Bar on Boston's Waterfront, was very well attended. The campaign allowed alumni the opportunity to identify the people who have made, or continue to make, a positive difference in their lives (*see story, inside back cover*).

Homecoming and Family Weekend 2015 came to a close with a special event as the Student Center Gymnasium was named for Dr. Eleanor Meyerhoff Katz, Hon. '00 (*see story on page 8*).

"It was tremendous to see so many alumni, parents, and friends of the College enjoy the weekend. There was a great deal of positive energy on our campus," said Vice President for Institutional Advancement Chris Lawson.

"There was terrific turnout at all of our breakout sessions for parents and alumni. Our faculty demonstrated the importance of engagement at the Family

Breakfast. It was very encouraging to see so many of our alumni participate in our growing philanthropy program by attending the Memory Lane Campaign event on Saturday night in Boston. The large turnout is a great example of our alumni showing their appreciation for the mentors at Curry who helped them succeed."

**To view the Homecoming and Family Weekend photo gallery, visit [curry.edu/magazine](http://curry.edu/magazine)**

## CLASS NOTES

### 1964

**Jeffrey Shapiro '64** and **Marcia (Deeb) Shapiro '63** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 1, 2015.

### 1966

**Michael O'Grady '66** and wife, Carol (McCarthy) of Framingham, MA, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on September 20, 2015, with a gathering of family and friends at the Sandy Burr Country Club in Wayland, MA.

### 1974

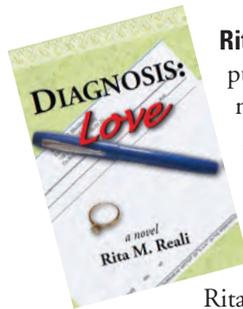
**Randy Kupferberg '74** and **Judith Corey Kupferberg '74** celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in June 2015. The couple has two daughters, Melissa and Laura. Judy is retired from the Plymouth school system and Randy is the CFO at Mass Tank, a steel storage tank fabricator located in Middleboro, MA.

### 1982

**Caryl Quinn '82** moved to the Richmond, VA, area 23 years ago. She and her husband have two daughters, Emily and Natalie. Caryl currently works as a political event coordinator and fundraiser for local candidates.

### 1985

Classmates from the Class of 1985 met this past December at the Stokie Country Club in Chicago.



**Rita M. Reali '85** published her debut novel, *Diagnosis: Love*. The novel is a love story about multiple wishes that come true at Christmastime.

Rita is a national award-winning journalist, award-winning visual artist, photographer, and parody songwriter who lives on the Cumberland Plateau in Tennessee with her husband, Frank.

### 1986

**Stephen Barbarisi '86** and **Kathleen Bistrong Barbarisi '86** have two daughters who are both in the Curry College Nursing Program: Elizabeth will graduate this spring with the Class of 2016 and Brittany will graduate in 2018.

### 1989

**Robert Rumsey '89** teaches accounting at Metropolitan State University in Denver, CO. He recently graduated with a Master in Professional Accounting concentrating on forensic accounting and is planning to enroll in law school in fall 2016. Robert ended his career in radio at the end of 2015 after nearly 30 years in the industry. He says, "I would have never realized the success of my radio career if it weren't for Professor Alan Frank and WMLN-FM."



L to R: George McPhillips '85, Bill Wallen '85, and John Pepoon '85.

### 1995

**Lisa Swedock '95** is working at Kay Jewelers in Leominster, MA, and her husband, **Peter Swedock '95**, is working at software company Liquid Pixels as a systems administrator. They have two sons, Nick who is attending Boston University, and Alex who is a senior in high school with plans of a career in fashion and design.

### 1996

**Autumn Bunche '96** is an inclusion manager at a mainstream primary school in Basingstoke in England. She works with special needs children and families as well as with other areas of inclusion — medical needs, traveler families and children, and hard-to-reach families. She is also a member of the school leadership team.

**Joshua Burnie '96** and wife, Katie, welcomed fourth daughter, Neve, in December 2015.

### 1998

**Marci Wasserstrom '98** participated in the Mount Desert Island Marathon and Half Marathon on October 18, 2015. She finished the half marathon in 4:10:36.



### 1999

**John (Jay) Conners III '99** and wife, Nikki, welcomed son, John E. Conners IV, in July 2014.

**Bryan Dunphy-Culp '99** is the director of housing and residence life at Gwynedd Mercy University in Gwynedd Valley, PA.

## 2000

**Josh Easler '00** is the director of national promotion for RCA Records Nashville in Nashville, TN.

## 2002

**Nicole Bello '02** and David Lombardi welcomed son, Nicholas Anthony Lombardi, on September 11, 2015. Nicole, David, and big sister, Italya, are very excited about the new addition.



L to R: David, Nicholas, Nicole, and Italya.

## 2003

**Robert Winter '03** welcomed his third child, a daughter, in November 2014. He is also celebrating his eighth anniversary working at State Street Corporation.

## 2004

**Rebecca Gardner '04** and her father, **George Gardner '77**, were featured in *The Boston Globe* on October 22, 2015, for their accomplishment as the only father/daughter tandem inducted into the Curry College Athletic Hall of Fame. George was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1987 and Rebecca in 2009. Go to [bostonglobe.com](http://bostonglobe.com) to read the full feature.

## 2005

**Christopher Roberson '05** is a reporter with the *Saugus Advocate*. He has been in this role since December 2014.

**Kaitlyn O'Connell Rodriguez '05** was promoted to vice president for administration and member relations at the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities in Massachusetts (AICUM).

## 2006

**Joseph Morabito '06** began work on *The Celebrity Apprentice* season 15, which shoots in Los Angeles and is hosted by Arnold Schwarzenegger. Joseph will be working with the NBC series through March 2016.

## 2008

**Sayde (Nazario) Drew '08** is a behavior therapist specializing in Assaultive Behavior Management at the Center for Autism and Related Disorders, located in Larchmont, NY.

**Allison Sturchio Manning '08** married Kenny Manning on August 29, 2015, in Narragansett, RI.

## 2009

**Tim DeBowes '09** is a senior account manager at Compass Furnished Apartments in Quincy, MA.

**Michelle Morgan '09** is a production manager at Hachette Book Group in Boston.

**Jami Ronzitti '09** is an executive assistant at Geode Capital Management, LLC in Boston.

**Krista Selnau '09** is a staff attorney for Pine Tree Legal Assistance in Portland, ME. She moved to Maine in 2015 after living in Arkansas for three years. In this role, she will lead a new collaboration with VA Maine Healthcare System to establish a medical-legal partnership for homeless and at-risk veterans.

Would you like to use a Curry College banner in photos at your upcoming event?

Please contact [alumni@curry.edu](mailto:alumni@curry.edu) or call 617-333-2121.



Alumni attendees included (pictured, left to right) Courtney (Buttrick) Cogliano '08, Rohini Bhinsen '08, Kristin Menconi '08, Julia Tenuta '08, bride Allison Manning '08, groom Kenny Manning, and Erica Warren-Oberman '08.

# CLASS NOTES

## 2010

**Brittany Capozzi '10** became a copyeditor, marketer, and receptionist at Boston Neuropsychological Services located in Needham, MA.

**Scott Fersht '10** recently joined the video team at news and media company Mic as a Video Editor.

Alumni from the Class of 2010 recently gathered for the wedding of **Jim Oeste '10** and Marissa Pribyl.



L to R: Adam Stowell '10, best man Nick Liguori '10, Kimberly (Citelli) Liguori '10, Kristin (Schmauder) Hodgman '10, and groom Jim Oeste '10. The wedding took place on August 1, 2015, at Water's Edge Events Center in Belcamp, MD.

**Tess Timm '11** competed in a horse show at Class Act Farm in Apopka, FL, in October 2015. She was the champion rider for the jumping cross rails/flat division.

**Jill Young '11** graduated with a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) from Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, CT, in May 2015.



Tess Timm '11 competes in a horse show in Apopka, FL.

**Brittany MacInnes '12**. The couple plans to marry in 2016.

**Natalie Petit '12** is an administrative assistant at the MIT Sloan School of Management Office of Executive Education.

**Mary O'Sullivan '10** married Michael McCabe in February 2015. She was also promoted to area coordinator at Johnson & Wales University in Providence, RI, where she now manages the two largest residence halls on the Downcity campus.

## 2011

**Sofia Coon '11** started a new job in September 2015 as a senior account executive helping to build out the PR portfolio at Cambridge startup agency Scratch Marketing + Media.

**Anthony DeMarinis '11** accepted a position with Empire Metal Trading in Brooklyn, NY. His new position allows him to be involved with the company's operations and sales.

## 2012

**Nate Green '12** is a 6th grade ELA/Social Studies teacher at Normandin Middle School in New Bedford, MA. He also coaches soccer and basketball at Fairhaven High School.

**Jessica Karvelas '12** is a talent management specialist with Thermo Fisher Scientific in Waltham, MA.

**Alicia Lemay '12** is a case manager at Easter Seals in Manchester, NH.

**Stephanie Melkus '12** became engaged to David Hashemi in June 2015 in Newport, RI. Her bridesmaids will include Jennifer Brown '12, Danielle Troiano '12, Allison Goldstein '12, and

## 2013

**Ashley Buckley '13** received a promotion in the fall of 2014 at Brigham and Women's Hospital. She is now the supervisor of Patient Access Services.

**Amanda Dunn '13** welcomed a baby boy in June 2015, and is currently a Registered Nurse on a medical-surgical and telemetry floor at South Shore Hospital.

**Amanda Felzmann '13** is a Registered Nurse at Massachusetts General Hospital. She is working in the Emergency Department.

**Aimee Lecompte '13** and **Christopher Milone '14** got engaged.

**Jon Marcel '13** is a full-time dispatcher for the Lincoln, MA, Police Department. He attended Air Force basic training on September 29, 2015, for the Rhode Island National Guard.

**Steve Nicholson '13** was an assistant camera operator for *Celebrity Wife Swap* during June and July 2015. He was also a grip for the upcoming horror film *Kill Them All*. Steve is currently the production coordinator for Linguine Pictures on the Food Network.

**Erin Reardon '13** is a pediatric Registered Nurse at Boston Children's Hospital.

**Lindsay Trudeau '13** is a Registered Nurse at Cape Cod Hospital on a cardiac-step down unit. She is also in the process of obtaining a Master of Science in Nursing degree from MCPHS University to become a family nurse practitioner. She will graduate in May 2017.

**Amanda Tse '13** accepted a position as coordinator of academic advising at Curry College. Amanda previously worked as a toddler teacher at Riverside Children's Center in Newton, MA, for three years.

## 2014

**Lee Bizon Jr. '14** received his direct commission into the U.S. Army Medical Corps as a 2LT on December 17, 2015. He received his 2LT insignia from his mother, Paula M. Bizon CPT, MI, USAR, which was awarded to her in 1981.

**Ashley Blye '14** is a Registered Nurse in the emergency department at Norwood Hospital.

**Stephanie Carlson '14** is a recruiter for Advantage Resourcing in Waltham, MA.

**Kristiana DeVito '14** is a mental health counselor at Arbour Hospital in Brookline, MA. She has also been accepted into graduate school at Simmons College where she will study clinical social work.

**Danielle Ferguson '14** is in the Family Nurse Practitioner Program at Simmons College in Boston.

**Megan Flaherty '14** is a real estate professional with William Raveis Real Estate in Chestnut Hill, MA.

**Kelly Oliver '14** is living on Galveston Island in Texas where she is a Registered Nurse on a telemetry medical-surgical unit at the University of Texas Medical Branch.

## 2015

**Jonathan Amdur '15** is a branch manager at Hertz in Dedham, MA.

**Lauren Azevedo '15** is working at McLean Hospital, a psychiatric hospital affiliated with Harvard Medical Center. She began this role in October 2015 and works primarily with patients with bipolar disorder and schizophrenia.

**Kylie Beltz '15** is a Registered Nurse at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis, MN, on a Surgical-Trauma-Neurology Unit.

**Joseph Berger '15** is an adolescent psychiatric charge nurse at Arbour Fuller Hospital.

**Sarah A. Bishop '15** completed the Nurse Residency Program at Lowell General Hospital and was offered a full-time position on a medical-surgical unit at the hospital.

**Sarah K. Bishop '15** is a Registered Nurse at Massachusetts General Hospital on a medical-surgical unit.

**Francesca Bollitier '15** is a substance abuse counselor at MCI-Norfolk.

**Kylerr Bucano '15** is a junior case manager/facilitator at SoBRO Overall Economic Development Corporation in Bronx, NY.

**Brianne Callan '15** is a production technician at FOX CT in Hartford, CT.

**Ryann Clark '15** is a Registered Nurse at New England Baptist Hospital.

**Amanda Cullinan '15** moved from her previous position with WKLB Country 102.5 and accepted a full-time customer service position with Granite Telecommunications in Quincy, MA.

**Jeanette Fallon '15** is a Registered Nurse at Southern New Hampshire Medical Center in Nashua, NH. She is working on a telemetry medical-surgical unit.

**Kyle Fennelly '15** is a 3rd grade elementary school teacher at Lowell Collegiate Charter School.



Have an update or  
interesting fact to share about  
your life after Curry?

Your classmates want to know!

[curry.edu/update](http://curry.edu/update)



## CLASS NOTES

**David Gebhardt '15** accepted a position at NBC Sports. He is working with the English Premier League.

**Natalie Glover '15** is a Registered Nurse at Mass Eye & Ear Infirmary in Boston. She began this position in September 2015.

**Olivia Goodson '15** is a Registered Nurse in the Emergency Department at Newton-Wellesley Hospital.

**Emily Harrison '15** joined the procurement department at Wellington Management in Boston.

**Jillian Hudgin '15** accepted a new grad Registered Nursing position on an oncology floor at UMass Memorial Medical Center in Worcester, MA.

**Vanessa Kelly '15** accepted a production assistant position at WHDH-TV Channel 7 News Boston.

**Danielle Kent '15** is a Registered Nurse at Cape Cod Hospital.

**Alexis Koch '15** is pursuing her Juris Doctor (J.D.) with a concentration in criminal law and human rights advocacy at Roger Williams University School of Law.

**Mike Last '15** is working for Andrew Penziner Productions in Boston as a video editor, production assistant, and assistant cameraman. He is also doing freelance production work on the side.

**Jillian MacDonald '15** accepted a position in the eCare Nurse Residency Program at Massachusetts General Hospital in September 2015.

**Ashley Mallet '15** is a Registered Nurse at Lahey Hospital and Medical Center in Burlington, MA.

**Stephanie Mazzie '15** is a Registered Nurse at Cambridge Hospital.

**Shaylee McCarron '15** is a Registered Nurse at Massachusetts General Hospital on an oncology floor.

**Lindsay McDaniel '15** is a Registered Nurse on a cardiac floor at South Shore Hospital in Weymouth, MA.

**Reid Meier '15** accepted a full-time position with the Transportation Security Administration.

**Ariana Metrano '15** is a Registered Nurse at Boston Children's Hospital in the Cardiac ICU.

**Ben Millett '15** is a studio technician/production assistant at FOX 25 News Boston.

**Brianna Mitchell '15** accepted a Registered Nurse position in Morton Hospital's New Graduate Program. The hospital is located in Taunton, MA.

**Shannen Moore '15** accepted a position in the Pediatric ICU Fellowship Program at Cohen Children's Medical Center in Long Island, NY.

**Christine Nguyen '15** moved to Boston after accepting a buyer position at Wayfair in September 2015.

**Ashley Pierce '15** became an orthopedic trauma nurse at Memorial University Medical Center in Savannah, GA.

**Jaime Pimental '15** is a Registered Nurse on a step-down medical unit at St. Luke's Hospital in New Bedford, MA.

**Samantha Robinson '15** is a Registered Nurse at Mount Auburn Hospital.

**Cassandra Smith '15** is a Registered Nurse at Saint Vincent's Hospital in Worcester, MA.

**Scott Smith '15** is a master control producer for WBZ News Radio 1030 in Boston.

## ENGAGEMENTS

**Stephanie Melkus '12** &

David Hashemi

**Aimee Lecompte '13** &

**Christopher Milone '14**

## WEDDINGS

**Allison Sturchio Manning '08** &

Kenny Manning

**Jim Oeste '10** & Marissa Pribyl

**Mary O'Sullivan '10** & Michael McCabe

**Michaela Sheehan '13** & Hunter

Iacoboni

**Andrew Reilly Class of 2016** & Jessica

Maderios

## IN MEMORIAM

**Donald Harmer '69**

**Gloria Walsh '71**

**Harriet Gruber '73**

**Robert Perella '76**

**Curtiss Hickcox '98**

**Amanda Turner Russell '06**

**Christopher Landford '07**

# MEMORY LANE CAMPAIGN

## THE VALUE OF CONNECTIONS

The Memory Lane Campaign introduced a new way to celebrate the meaningful connections made at Curry College. Mentors, professors, staff, coaches, and advisors are all part of any college experience, but what sets Curry apart is the lifelong aspect of those relationships.

The campaign, which began in the summer of 2015 and ended in October, gave alumni an opportunity to recognize people who were an important part of their Curry experience. For each \$10 donation, alumni could honor someone at Curry who had a positive impact on their life. Each honoree received a Certificate of Gratitude with the donor's name, class year, and a personalized message.

Alumni selected more than 60 deserving recipients in a wide range of disciplines from all across the campus. While many chose to honor beloved professors — Dotty Alexander in the Education department received a record seven certificates — others identified those that helped them on the field (such as men's soccer coach Pete Mendel) or in the Student Center (such as Sodexo's executive chef Christian King).

Memory Lane Campaign contributors enjoyed meeting for a celebration at Tia's Restaurant and Bar on Boston's waterfront during Homecoming Weekend, where they reminisced about the people at Curry that made a difference in their lives.

To see Maureen O'Shea surprise her former student Amber Soucy '13, visit [curry.edu/mlcamber](http://curry.edu/mlcamber)



Amber Soucy '13 honored Maureen O'Shea.



Education professor Dotty Alexander was recognized by many alumni.

### Memory Lane Campaign honorees, 2015:

Sarah Albright, PAL  
 Dotty Alexander, Education  
 Edward Allan, Criminal Justice  
 Stephanie Alliette, Residence Life  
 Don Anderson, Nursing  
 Jen Balboni, Criminal Justice  
 Eileen Ball, PAL  
 Skip Bandini, Athletics  
 Michael Bennett, Management  
 Anne Benoit, Academic Enrichment Center  
 William Buckley, Science and Math  
 Roger Allan Bump, Communication  
 Dorria DiManno, Communication  
 Fran Elms, Athletics  
 Tony Fabrizio, Management  
 Chris Fatouros, Management  
 Vicki Fatouros, Management  
 Jane Fidler, Admission  
 Paul Fleury, Athletics  
 Alan Frank, Radio  
 Michelle Gabow, PAL  
 Jerry Gibbs, Communication  
 Michelle Goldrick, PAL  
 Peter Hainer, Criminal Justice and Sociology  
 Larry Hartenian, Politics and History  
 Kirk Hazlett, Communication  
 George Herman, PAL  
 Allan Hunter, English  
 Robert Keighton, Politics and History  
 Christian King, Sodexo  
 Laura Kirsch, Psychology  
 Jeff Lemberg, Communication  
 Ann Marie Leonard-Zabel, Psychology  
 Mila Levine, Applied Technology  
 Bob MacNeil, Management  
 Michelle McMahon, Nursing  
 Pete Mendel, Athletics  
 Katherine Morrison, Community Health and Wellness  
 William Nancarrow, Politics and History  
 Erin Niemisto, Bookstore  
 Maureen O'Shea, Nursing  
 Michelle Perrault, Management  
 Barbara Pinchera, Nursing  
 Kenneth K. Quigley, Jr., President  
 Caitlin Roberts, Athletics  
 James Salvucci, Management  
 Michael Sampson, Criminal Justice  
 Alyssa Samuels, Institutional Advancement  
 Joanne Seltzer, Education  
 Shana Shields, Science and Math  
 Sharon Sinnott, Communication  
 Bruce Steinberg, Psychology  
 Thomas Verrico, Student Center/Student Affairs  
 Ron Warners, Honors Program  
 Diane Webber, PAL  
 Amy Zackrisson, Admission

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