Alumni Notes

Keep in Touch
The Lab Notes section of this magazine is where alumni come to connect with the Schools and fellow classmates. Please contact your class representative or the Office of Alumni Relations and Development (ARD) with any updates about yourself or friends who attended Lab. If your graduation year is without a representative, please consider volunteering to serve in this fun and important role. Email notes, information, or questions to labnotes@ucls.uchicago.edu. Please note that ARD reserves the right to determine what to include in our publication.

30s & 40s
Classes of 1940–43*

1944 Class Representative
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Martin Steindler writes, “I have not heard from or about the U-High bunch for a very long time. However, I uncovered the autograph book of my late wife, Joan who was part of the Hutchins group (as I was) that left after 10th grade and entered college. I may assemble a roster in the near future if anyone might be interested in the days of gym temp, Mr. Wittick’s shop class, and the so-called language corridor. The Correlators we had at home were sent to the Lab some time back and with those went some of my memories.”

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Tom Wilson writes, “When I was four years old I started in Junior Kindergarten at the Laboratory Schools. Two years later I was in First Grade. The attached picture shows our class that year. Under the influence of John Dewey’s ideas about education, we did some big projects in the classroom. The Cunard Line’s Queen Mary was a new trans-Atlantic liner then. As you see, we had our own Queen Mary in the classroom. Looking through the porthole is Ann Rosenblum. She always was the top student in each class we were in together. Also looking through a porthole is one of my best friends, Rob McDougal. 18 years later we were both graduate students at the University of Chicago—he at the Law School and I in the Medical School. I am the third from the left, standing at the gangplank. The one with the buzz cut. I think our teacher’s name was Ms. Pokenhorn, she is not in the picture. The people in that picture would now be 90 years old. Probably 2/3 to 3/4 of them are no longer alive. But it would be nice to hear from anybody who recognizes him or herself.”

Class of 1947*

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50s

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Allen Musikantow writes, “My classmates Barry Preston, Eliot Finkel, Murray Dry and I have a Zoom call every other Monday. Also on the call is Lee Preston, ’61. We also meet twice a year, going to LA in January and a different location each September. Our wives join us and we take turns being the host who makes all the arrangements. Lee and Barry Preston are retired. Lee practiced law and was a Judge. Barry was a banker. Eliot Finkel is an investment counselor in Beverly Hills. Murray is a Professor of Political Science at Middlebury College. I am in the hospitality industry owning hotels and restaurants and currently own a small group of Cody’s restaurants in central Florida. Barry lives in NYC and Chicago. Lee in Chicago and Scottsdale, Eliot in Beverly Hills and I live in Ocala, FL.”

Class of 1959*


Interested in volunteering to serve as your class representative? Email the Alumni Relations and Development Office at labnotes@ucls.uchicago.edu.
60s

1960 Class Representative
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Sandra Lach Arlinghaus
writes, "Greetings from Meridian, Mississippi. During the past six months or so, I have been involved, in varying degrees, in three projects with a Covid-19 connection. I participated with the Brickhaus Brewtique (owned by our son, William E. Arlinghaus, also a former Lab student) in taking Pub Games normally played only on-site, and casting them to a national audience using FaceTime Live and crowdfunding of volunteer donations to pay a professional host and bar/restaurant utilities during a time of required in-house shutdown. The effort was written about (by me) in the most recent issue of Solstice: An Electronic Journal of Geography and Mathematics. In August of 2020, a TV telecast noted over 1000 people per day were moving to Florida from major cities elsewhere. Why not Consider Meridian! I thought—we love our new Tudor home. Meridian is inexpensive, pleasant, and undergoing a continuing renaissance (cultural and physical). Active folks from elsewhere might enjoy, as do we, living in an interesting neighborhood of a small city. So, I wrote a brief piece for those wishing to learn more. In October 2020, Brickhaus Brewtique participated in a local blood drive sponsored by the Knights of Columbus—the Brickhaus contribution! Give A Pint: Get A Pint! Give blood, get beer. A report on this activity will appear in the December issue of Solstice."

Judge Sophia Hall writes, “Being a judge just became even more interesting. The COVID-19 virus disrupted everything, including the courts. I have been learning new technological skills as my Courtroom became a Zoom room. This two-dimensional “place” for justice to be done, has replaced, for the most part, the three-dimensional face-to-face relationship building with litigants and lawyers who are seeking justice. I develop new ways to build trust in this new environment. They say learning new things keeps you young and engaged. Technology also teaches more patience. I expect that we are all addressing the frustration and aggravation of having to submit to the intransigencies of doing so much the technological way. I take comfort in knowing that I am not alone, because we are all in this new world together. The administration of justice has always been a work in progress for each case, and so that continues. Hope all of you are well and you are keeping safe."

Menachem Kovacs in Baltimore and David Passman in Chicago continue to be in very frequent touch by email on religious (that is, Torah) and political subjects. (David taught his son Mayer at Hebrew Theological College in Skokie some years ago.) They welcome others of you to join: takovacs@comcast.net

Ellen Leavitt writes, "In early March, we were in Southern CA to celebrate Ronnie Anson and Susie Anson's 50th wedding anniversary. Also attending the festivities were Carol and Ian Dresner. Later in the week, I met up with Wendy Tucker for a marathon gabfest that included lunch, coffee and tea, and dinner. We broke our record, going for 10 ½ hours!! We could have talked for longer and covered a vast range of subjects both serious and silly, deep and shallow. Everything is on the table; everything is of interest; everything is worthy commentary. FABULOUS! Next morning we had breakfast with Laurie Braude, Lois Bostwick, and Randy DeLave. So glad we could do this; it was the last time we travelled and the last time we were able to visit our CA Labbie friends. We continue our COVID-19 routine here at home, which includes visiting with our little bubble of friends. We all trust each other to follow the guidelines and be safe. Our bubble includes fellow Labbies Ian and Carol Dresner, Susan and Rich Goldsmith, and Harri and Ken Dry. Our in person visits are helping to keep us all sane during this crazy time. Sadly we have had another classmate’s death: Ronnie Anson (Ronald Askanaese), passed away on June 18th. See the obituary section for more details."

1961 Class Representative
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Lee Preston writes, "It’s been a difficult year of reflection. My classmate and old friend, David Soble, ’60 of blessed memory, passed away. The hours that Ben Shapiro, Michael Goldman, Dick Goldberg and I spent playing ping-pong and gin in his recreation room, instead of studying, was one major reason why I barely passed Latin. I mean, I could have been a published Latin scholar if it weren’t for David. We were good friends and though we drifted apart along the way, I have such warm and meaningful memories of times we laughed and talked about our perceived futures (called “guy talk”) together. My warm thoughts go out to wife, Leanne, and to Michael and Jeffrey. Also, warm hugs and warm thoughts to sister Carol Soble Siegel, ’63. (I always loved “Little Morris”.) Then I learned that my highschool girlfriend, Kay Johnson, ’63, passed away. Kay and I dated during my senior year and her junior year at U-High. She was a brilliant and wonderful person and I have so many memories of times we spent together. My condolences go out to her husband and daughters and to her brother, David. This is now 5781. We should all enjoy a year of peace, prosperity, happiness, and good health (with an emphasis on good health.)"

Rick Schmidt writes, "Hello again, to friends from 1950s Lab days! In an earlier posting, I told of having my third indie feature, Emerald Cities, remastered by noted Danish filmmaker Nicolas Winding Refn (director of Drive with Ryan Gosling), which is still streaming free at his bynwr site. Since then, I’ve written an account of making this movie, the trials and tribulations of my improv approach, shooting in Death Valley, CA and San Francisco (filming live performances of now-legendary bands, Flipper & The Mutants), and explaining the process of creating scenes/shots in a very short 4-Day timeframe. The resulting book, New Dark Ages- How a Punk Movie Emerald Cities Got its Improv, is not only a case study on creating a low/no-budget feature, but also the full account of getting a book deal. My filmmaking how-to, Filmmaking at Used-Car Prices, was published by Viking Penguin Books, and helped launch the Hollywood careers of Kevin Smith (Clacks) and actor Vin Diesel (his mother bought him a copy). So, for you undiscovered writers out there (surely some from my class of ’61!), please don’t give up hope. Maybe my unusual story—against all odds!—can send some inspiration your way."

David Soble passed away this past spring. Please see the obituary section for more details.

Peter Tobias writes, “Having lurked on these pages for just shy of sixty years, it seemed time to contribute. It will surprise none of my classmates that I went into science. After a chem-bio major at Oberlin college, I got a PhD in biochemistry at the University of Chicago. After some years of knocking around academia, in 1980 I finally landed permanently in the Department of Immunology at The Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, CA, where I stayed until retirement in 2015. Early along the way I married a fellow graduate of Oberlin, Susan Lindsay, with whom I have two daughters, Sara and Abigail, both of whom, being fine, independent-minded young women, refused to have anything to do with Oberlin, the University of Chicago, or the University of California. Susan and I went our separate ways in 1999. I have subsequently remarried with Kathi McCord, a very fine print artist and illustrator of many children’s books. Along the way I also developed an interest in growing things, especially orchids. That in turn instigated an interest in conservation, as the

Lois Bostwick, ’60 Phil Leavitt, Randy DeLave, Laurie Braude, ’60 and Ellen Leavitt, ’60 enjoying breakfast together in California
native environments where orchids grow are being seriously degraded, as are pretty much all other native environments. In consequence, some friends and I started the Orchid Conservation Alliance, of which I have been the president for the last fifteen years; I invite you all to visit orchidconservationalliance.org to see what we do. Most recently I’ve gotten interested in making videos. With the help of several local community college courses I’ve completed a few which can be found on Vimeo or Youtube by searching for my name or Orchid Conservation Alliance, respectively. I’m not in any danger of winning an award for these videos, most of them are school homework efforts, so please be kind in your reviews. Coronavirus willing, I’m looking forward to being at the 60th reunion next year. Good grief, 60yrs?? And, of course, I invite all of you to come visit us in Encinitas, CA.”

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Class of 1965*

Class of 1966*

Stewart Herman writes, “Retired life continues relatively peacefully in the comfortable 100-year old Minneapolis house Linda and I renovated several years ago. The house continues to generate more electricity than it uses, thanks to solar panels on the roof, geothermal heating and cooling in the ground, and thick insulation. We’ve offset 50 tons of carbon so far, and just wish there were more ‘net-zero’ houses sprouting all over the place. I just wrote a ‘social message’ on government and civic obligation for the Lutheran church (ELCA), and carpenter mission-style furniture on the side. Unfortunately our travelling days are over, but we have one daughter close by and another who comes and stays weeks at a time, and so consider ourselves very lucky in the face of COVID-19.”

Stewart Herman, '66 and his wife, Linda, on the front porch of their energy efficient home located in Minneapolis

Joey Kenig has begun writing poetry. If you are interested in some of his most recent work, click here.

Anne-Marie Nicol writes, “What have you been up to? Now there is a question? I can’t wait to see the answers! Since lockdown we have travelled nowhere. Once lockdown was eased we visited a select few hospitality venues for outdoor dining & coffees during daylight hours. Early on in lockdown I asked classmates and friends to give me an idea of lockdown in their areas. Here in Scotland all shops except grocery stores, pharmacies and other essential services were closed. We had our groceries delivered. We treated ourselves to delivered meals once a fortnight or so from our favourite Indian, Chinese, and Italian restaurants. To assist the local fishing industry we bought fresh lobsters from the fish van that visited our street weekly. The fishermen were no longer able to sell their catch abroad or to catering establishments so the price plummeted. Lucky us! The differing tales of lockdown measures were very interesting as were the emotional reactions to the lockdown. Everyone who replied to me took the virus threat seriously, but some were more frightened than others. I started various personal projects – most of them uncompleted. There was a Coronavirus Blog (abandoned). I started writing a memoir of my early life to be read by my daughter in the far distant future, if she wants to (ongoing). I learnt simple video editing with a view to remove the advertisement breaks from movies I had downloaded (ongoing, not always successful). As lockdown eased I made masks. We had our patio refurbished. My husband painted our very grey hardwood patio furniture. I remembered I had brought back some batik fabric from Nigeria a few years ago and made covered cushions for the furniture. There is a 1000-piece jigsaw of the U of C waiting for me if I get bored. We try not to talk about future travel plans as we have no idea when an effective vaccine will be available. Sadly, our caravan never came out of storage this year. While British caravan sites are now open, we could not see the attraction in going to an area where we did not feel safe because we were unfamiliar with it, to spend time driving around or sitting in our caravan in the unpredictable and changeable British weather—so we stayed home! Now that the number of new cases per day is rising quite rapidly in the UK, new regulations have come into effect. We can no longer have any visitors inside our house and there can be a maximum of 6 from a total of two households (including ours) in our garden. We have been told these restrictions will probably last for six months with the possibility of a ‘time out’ for Christmas/New Year. We are safe, in pretty good spirits and hopeful of a return to freedom with the arrival of an effective vaccine. Until then, we will continue to be cautious. I hope this finds all of you safe and well and that that continues to be the case.”

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John Block is the producer and director of The Power of Us: Comforting our Climate Crisis. He teamed up with retired Chicagoland engineer Jim Goodman and his wife Annie, who like many of us, are alarmed about the evermore severe climate change crisis, but know that their generation has failed to address it. With the environmental clock ticking, the Goodmans enlist the aid of some impassioned Northwestern University students to help create a purposeful exhibit aimed at young people. Even more, they launched this inspiring film to educate, and to show children that they have the power and responsibility to make a difference. Look for the film to have a national premiere in November on PBS’s Peril and Promise—an online public media initiative. Thereafter, the film will be available through Peril and Promise and Discovery Education, the global leader in standards-based digital curriculum resources for K-12 classrooms worldwide.

Delia Pitts writes, “I’ve launched into a new creative phase since retiring from my career as a university administrator. I’ve returned to an early love and published several books in an expanding series of private eye mystery novels. My stories are contemporary noir, moody but not grim, with enough action and character insights to keep the pages turning. I’ve also published several short stories, including a new one in the Spring 2020 volume of the Chicago Quarterly Review. You can learn more at my website, www.deliapitts.com. My husband and I continue to live in central New Jersey, too far from our twin sons who live in Texas.”

1969 Class Representative
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*Classes of 1962, 1965, 1966

Interested in volunteering to serve as your class representative? Email the Alumni Relations and Development Office at labnotes@ucls.uchicago.edu.

Jerry Geisel writes, "I transferred to Lab in September 1967 after spending my freshman and sophomore years at Hyde Park High School. I still remember my great Lab teachers, including English teachers, Richard Scott and Sue Phillips, as well as my German teacher, Gregor Heggen. Last, but by no means least, I remember Wayne Brasler when I was the sports editor for U-Highlights and Mr. Brasler was the yearbook advisor. The encouragement I got from Mr. Brasler definitely was a factor in my later becoming a journalist. For college, I went to the University of Wisconsin in Madison, where I majored in history. For graduate school, I went to the University of Missouri School of Journalism. When I was finished, I landed a reporting job in the Washington, D.C., Office of Business Insurance magazine. It was a great fit. I stayed nearly 40 years at BI covering employee benefit and risk management issues. In 2016, though, amid a decline in advertising revenues, Crain Communications, BI’s parent company, folded the magazine. I later worked for an employee benefits lobbying organization and an employee benefits consulting firm. Now, I am largely retired, though I still freelance for a website that covers captive insurance company issues. In 1995, I married Roseanne White, who was a copy editor at Business Insurance. Roseanne moved to Washington after we were married. In 1999, our daughter, Rachel, was born. Rachel now is a senior at American University where she is majoring in public health."

Stephen Korshak writes, “There were many things that David Shopiro loved in life but few more than basketball, Motown, Bobby Kennedy, Israel, and chocolate. But above all David was a dreamer. A dreamer of social justice, of a Jewish state in Israel, of developing restaurants in Hyde Park, and of so many more things. Like most of us he was successful with some of his dreams and unsuccessful with others. His commitment to social injustice was to regularly donate his restaurant food to shelters and his time tutoring disadvantaged children in reading. His commitment to Israel was to volunteer his time working on a kibbutz throughout his life. And finally, his commitment to developing restaurants saw him create several different restaurant concepts over the years, thereby improving the social life of Hyde Park. Later in life as a series of health problems enveloped David it caused strains in his life. Yet David toiled on. Through it all David was a dreamer who never lost his wicked sense of humor, even when his dreams did not come true. David should be remembered as a kind and gentle man with a passion for life and a magnetic personality. I will always think of David when I read the quote by Robert Kennedy, “Some men see things as they are and ask why. I dream of things that never were and ask why not.”

Merritt Widen writes, "After Lab, I attended Stanford, receiving a BA with Special Honors in Psychology, and then immediately went to Harvard Business School for my MBA in Business Strategy and Finance. Since 1980, I have lived the roller coaster ups and downs of a serial entrepreneur. For 10 years, I owned and operated a company that traded options, stock, and futures as members of the CBOE, Chicago Merc, and the American Stock Exchange. Moving to California in the early 90s, I started a boutique investment banking company that worked with start-ups and also served as court-appointed agents and managers for companies in bankruptcy. In this capacity, I had the opportunity to manage or advise companies across a wide array of industries, from high tech to home furnishings, from Telecom technology to truck parts manufacturing. In 2005, I founded companies that became Forefront TeleCare a pioneer and national leader in the behavioral Telehealth field. Telehealth is such an obviously good idea, that all of us pioneers were early, WAY early. We thought that “if you build it, they will come.” But it took them years to come. There was patient reluctance, provider resistance, policy-maker and payor resistance. These obstacles did not really collapse completely until the COVID-19 National Health Emergency, when the walls came a tumblin’ down! I am now starting up a new venture in behavioral Telehealth, still in stealth mode, but with great prospects for the future. So stay tuned! I live overlooking the San Francisco Bay, in the land of perpetual spring and crazy prices, with my lovely wife Autumn and son Wolf, a sophomore at University of California Merced.”

70s

1970 Class Representative
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Hannah Banks writes, “2020 was to have been the year of our 50th reunion, but the virus had other plans. Sigh. So instead of meeting in person, in Chicago, we met the 2020 way: on Zoom. Twice, and love of my life, wanted to return to California to be closer to her family, so, disinchanted with where my lab rat career with the solar group was heading (or not heading...), I took a job working at Hughes Aircraft, Los Angeles, in 1983. We married later that year. My work at Hughes was centered on development, performance testing, and finally developing specifications for infrared and visible detector arrays (essentially overpriced camera chips). In 1994, my elder brother Eric (Rick) Thompson, ’67 died from lung/throat cancer, a horrifying fate (please don’t smoke, folks). My dad died two months later of respiratory complications. My mom, who somehow managed to cope with all six of us kids, passed away in 2001, a loss that took us all a long time to process. I took early retirement in December 2007, two days after my 55th birthday, and did not let the door hit me on the way out. A welcome relief from the stress I felt working in the Aerospace industry. Retirement immediately left a vacuum, fortunately the year previous, I applied for volunteer work at the California Science Center near downtown, where, up until this blasted pandemic hit, I’ve labored in a small group of similar-minded retirees building bits of equipment intended to demonstrate facets of science to kids. I have also conducted some physics demos to the kids visiting the Center, as well as visiting a high school in the Crenshaw District to perform demos there. We at U-High are so fortunate to have received the education offered there. Public schools out here seem far behind—I’d like to do more to improve physics education out here. I was always drawn to sailboats and sailing, and once in Los Angeles had the opportunity to get seriously involved. I took sailing classes in Marina Del Rey and Redondo Beach—after I retired, the director of the RB program asked me if I would be interested in teaching (I thought he’d gone off his rocker). Teaching sailing over the past 12 years has been enjoyable—seeing that light bulb turn on in my students’ heads is a wonderful thing, I teach
coastal navigation, and have been working with the City Recreation Department to allow me to teach Celestial Navigation. In 2018, Anna and I visited my younger sister, Ingrid, in Norway. I haven’t kept in touch with many U-Higher’s, but contacted Martin Lubran a year or so ago (we were active in the U-High Film Club) and have stayed in touch with Tim Wright, ’69 who has forged himself into an internationally known knife maker and the finest machinist. I hope all of you are staying healthy amidst this COVID-19 mess. In the words of Mayor Daley, “Vote Early, Vote Often” for the representatives of your choice! I feel like our 50th reunion has been ripped off by the coronavirus. Anyone interested in a Zoom session or two?”

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1972 Class Representative
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JoJo Martin writes, “I am the director of Rich Township senior center in Park Forest. We are closed to the public but still doing home delivered meals and other services. I talk to Leoneen W. Lindard Jones, but that’s about it for now. The late Stephen Brown’s, ’73 mom, Helen Brown, just passed. A lovely woman. His brother Willbur and I became friends, then I ended up working with his mom! I hope everyone is well—I miss the reunions but I’m always happy to see who’s doing what. Take care and stay well”

1973 Class Representative
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Amy Bernstein writes, “This has been a good period for me in the realm of publications, I have had three short stories published in literary magazines in the last two years and was also a finalist in a prestigious competition. Being stuck at home and losing my part-time teaching job due to the pandemic has actually been great for my writing! I have also been working hard as an internet misinformation finder for Common Cause and writing lots of postcards and emails about the coming election. I am largely leaving the marching to my daughters, who are on the front lines. I am so proud of them.”

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Rich Nayer plays the mob boss, Don LaBianca, in the new Chicago crime drama movie, Lil Caesar.

Class of 1977*

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*Class of 1977*

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80s

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Eliza Tyksinski writes, “I live in Oregon, Wisconsin and I am married to Scott Martin, we have three children: Geneva (26), Tasha (23), and Timothy (19), and a grandson, Mathias (7). My parents, Ralph and Karleen, live near by in Madison, close to my siblings. Until COVID-19, my Dad, an ordained Unitarian Minister, remained active in Chaplaincy work in local hospitals and other venues. Mom volunteered at an elementary school near them and at a senior adult care facility. They are in great shape and love to work in their garden and take care of the grand dogs! My brother, Adam, has invented some items that he has successfully marketed through Amazon, is a professional photographer, and he also plays in a Bluegrass band. My sister, Gwynne, manages Harvest, a farm-to-table restaurant on the Capitol square in downtown Madison. She has also been working to renovate a retro building and will soon realize a long-term goal to open a vintage and eco boutique. I teach art, music and drama. I enjoy writing scripts with children and have written songs that I share locally at library engagements and at the Reggio Emilia school where I work, teach, and play! So much of Lab’s John Dewey approach is in alignment and overlaps with the philosophy of that school. I feel inspired by early childhood educators from Lab, teachers that I had: in pre-school Masha Semkov; in kindergarten Rose Bello; teacher/mentor Jane Katch, and also the influential teacher/author: Vivian Paley, among many others. I had a chance to visit the new Earl Shapiro Hall for early childhood education at our last class reunion. It is a beautiful addition to the campus, in particular the outdoor recreational space on the roof with a rock climbing wall overlooking Jackson Park. I hope all alumni will get to see this new building and also the amazing new studios and theater in the Gordon Parks Art Hall addition to the High School. Hey classmates of ’82! Plan now for the 2022 reunion. Hope to see you there!”

1983 Class Representative
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Kim Neely Dubuclet was re-elected to serve a six year term on the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago Board of Commissioners. She will begin her second term in December 2020. Previously, she was a state representative representing the 26th District, which includes Hyde Park. Her county-wide agency is responsible for processing waste and sewer water, mitigating...
flooding and ensuring that our freshwater supply stays safe.

1984 Class Representative
Susan Mack Taple
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David Wong writes, “For the last four years I have been working on a Certificate in Studio Art and Design from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. In my final class this spring, of the eight students, three of us were Lab alumni. I was in class with Francine Almeda, ’15 and Neil Howe, ’96. None of us overlapped. After I discovered this I found their senior photos from their yearbooks and used all three of our photos during one of my critique presentations. Our class was suspended due to the pandemic so I had to complete my school work alongside my kids who were finishing 5th and 8th grades. We had to switch from a regular, in-person art show to a virtual show. You can see the results on my website, davidwongphoto.com. During quarantine, I managed to do a product shoot for another Lab alum, Dan Orlikoff, ’83 for his new fishing lure company, Fub Wobbler. I stay in touch with David Weisblatt, ’83 who lives in Colorado and sells racing car parts. Errol Rubenstein, ’83 lives in Minnesota, is a special education paraprofessional, and is a poet. I also stay in touch with George Cole, who lives in California and works at a biotech company. It will be great when we can get on an airplane again and visit people.”

1985 Class Representative
Anjali Fedson Hack
defsonhack@gmail.com

Laura (Bolton) Faulk writes, “My family and I live near Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN. The year 2020 was full of hallmark celebrations. My husband, Bob, and I celebrated our 25th anniversary on the same day our son, AJ (a junior at Purdue), celebrated his 21st birthday. Our daughter, Maria, graduated from high school this year, turned 18, and is now a freshman at Purdue. I recently retired from my post as a sixth grade teacher at West Lafayette Intermediate Schools in order to focus more on family, but since the COVID-10 lockdown, I was asked to return as a permanent sub in the building, in case anyone has to quarantine. I am working on a series of Professional Development sessions focusing on Glenn Singleton’s book, Courageous Conversations About Race, for about half of our staff at the school. In addition to this, I created a mentoring group for our young Black and Brown girls which has expanded to our junior and senior high girls. We have about 15 girls in the group and the older girls help mentor the younger girls. We have some great discussions and I have seen such growth in our girls. Just having that group to validate their fears, questions, etc. seems to have done wonders! While being in black and gold country, Bob and I are still committed Badger fans along with our alum friends Eric Anderson, Bill Nelson, Carline Theodore, and Lisa Crayton. Hope everyone is staying sane during this extremely challenging year. Looking forward to closing the book on this year! Love to all.”

Laura (Bolton) Faulk, ’85, her son, AJ, her daughter, Maria, and her husband, Bob.

1986 Class Representative
Sam Perlman
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samperlmandoorcounty@icloud.com

1987 Class Representative
Barbara Harris
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Jennifer Montague writes, “June was full of change; I was promoted to SVP and Chief Customer Officer of NiSource, (Midwest utility). My daughter, Ariel Montague, ’20 graduated from Lab and is headed to Brown.”

Class of 1988*

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90s

1990 Class Representatives
Dan Kirschner
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Tara P. Shochet
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319-354-0893

1991 Class Representative
Mariann McKeever
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1992 Class Representative
Shrunalai Rai
shrunalai@me.com

Margarita Garcia writes, “Funny how the pandemic has put me virtually in touch with more Lab Schoolers than ever before, as I left the U.S. in 2004 and never looked back. Moving from NYC to a tiny island in the middle of the South Pacific, where I lived in a lighthouse facing the South China sea and founded an arts organization for indigenous children. Then after wandering through Europe, a short stint living in my studio in Amsterdam, I’ve settled in Germany where I teach (and perhaps someday will finish my PhD) at the Bauhaus University, Weimar. Oddly, this feels like an intellectual/artistic homecoming, since so many German art professors fied to the US and Chicago in the 1940s. Anyway, during the COVID-19 lockdown (which was thankfully short here), I found myself back in touch online with Charity Thomas, Floremy Dato-on, Kimberley Thomas, Jamie Ratcliffe, Jason Biggs, Lisa Biggs, ’89, Matt Tuttle, and countless others who put up with my constant postings from abroad on the subject of U.S. politics and Black Lives Matter. For anyone that is interested in being involved in more than just FB posting, I actually attended an (online) meeting for the first time with someone that I haven’t seen in person since 9/11, William Upski Wimsatt, ’90 who has helped to build an incredible organization called the Movement Voter Project, which is addressing inequality and social justice in the U.S., directly by connecting grassroots community organizations to funding that they normally do not have access to. After just listening to two stories from ordinary people who were making a difference in their local communities I became hopeful that Upski might just actually save the world, just like he planned when he pushed a giant inflatable globe through Hyde Park barefoot for our first Lab School Earth Day in 1991. But just like then, he might need our help, so if you are interested, check out https://movement.vote/ and drop him a line and I am sure he will find some work for you to do, even from home. I have to say that following his sometimes crazy lead, did get me both into Brown University and a U.S. Fulbright Award which funded the initial part of that lighthouse stay!”

Amanda Williams was awarded a grant from the Chicago-based nonprofit 3Arts. Additionally she will be part of an upcoming exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in New York in February 2021 called Reconstruction: Blackness and Architecture in America.

1993 Class Representative
Alan Heymann
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Silver Spring, MD 20902
alanheymann@gmail.com
202-468-9554

Kimberly Egonwann writes, “Hey Lab! In true Lab School form, I am a Chicago-based attorney who has found my niche as a writer, advocate, political commentator and host of The WVON 1690 AM Talk of Chicago Afternoon Show.

*Class of 1988*

Interested in volunteering to serve as your class representative? Email the Alumni Relations and Development Office at labnotes@ucls.uchicago.edu.
which also airs internationally on iHeart.com. I sometimes appear on WTTW, WBEZ and other outlets, and will serve as a political contributor to CBS2 Chicago’s 2020 Election Night Coverage. I did not consult with a presidential campaign this cycle but will instead lead the first Election Protection program consisting of over 800 attorney members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., where we will protect the rights of voters by fighting voter suppression through the courts.”

Rebekah Scheinfeld writes, “After taking a sabbatical following some intense years as Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Transportation, in March I started the next chapter of my career as CEO of Civic Consulting Alliance, a nonprofit that provides pro bono consulting services to local government and institutional leaders to tackle big systemic issues as part of our mission to make the Chicago region a better place to live and work. I’ve been enthused to jump into new policy areas, with our focus on economic vitality, education and public safety and criminal justice. Check us out at www.ccachicago.org!”

1994 Class Representative
Michelle Maffia Tarkowski
maffeleg@gmail.com

Shelly Quiles writes, “This past summer has been filled with a lot of sorrow, change, and hope for new developments. A group of my neighbors and I spent time cleaning up areas that were looted in South Shore, as well as disinvested land in our community in response to the racism and economic blight that seemed to drive the response of anger and angst that came during the George Floyd protests and May 30 looting. We were able to successfully host over 70 Black-owned small and micro businesses at the Lemonade Land, which served as an outdoor popup market at 6700 S. Dorchester Ave. The Lemonade Land was my idea to use land that had sat vacant for over a decade to create something sweet and good for our neighborhood out of raw material—open land.

The land is city owned and we’ve run into issues with the city and the alderman blocking aspects of our project such as limiting city vending to food only. With the shutdown of major stores that have never returned since the May 30 events in our area, we realized we needed to respond to the business divestment with our own creativity. We have maintained strict and abundantly cautious protocols to protect residents and customers against COVID-19. We have committed to continuing to work to improve this community economically by building stronger Black entrepreneurs. We are creating the change we believe will shift the economics for our neighbors in South Shore and surrounding areas who are stressed and tired of this persistent struggle. When you see us, shop with us, because we are pushing for a better tomorrow in our community and across Chicago.”

1996 Class Representatives
Shira Katz
1068 Ashbury Street
San Francisco, CA 94114
shikatz@hotmail.com
Elena Aresman McPeak
elena.mcpeak@gmail.com

Stephan Sonnenberg writes, “Just a quick update, namely that after five years living in Bhutan, my family and I moved to South Korea where I took a position as Associate Professor at Seoul National University’s law school.”

1997 Class Representative
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1999 Class Representative
Katherine Le
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2000 Class Representative
Tiago Pappas
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Nerissa Legge writes, “Currently I have been very focused on the two businesses that I run. One is called Beadly, where I create unique handmade jewelry. My other business is called Sprinkle Love, and it is focused on inspirational greeting cards and gifts!”

2001 Class Representative
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2003 Class Representative
John Oxtoby
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2004 Class Representative
Marcelo Pappas
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2005 Class Representative
Mark Berberian
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Class of 2006*

Lindsay Cook writes, “Notre Dame Cathedral: Nine Centuries of History, my English-language translation of a French-language book co-authored by Dany Sandron and Andrew Tallon, was published last spring, and this fall I was appointed Assistant Teaching Professor of Art History in the School of Art at Ball State University in Indiana.”

2007 Class Representative
Molly Schloss
molly.jschloss@gmail.com

2008 Class Representative
Victoria Rogers
victoriamrogers@gmail.com

Graham Salinger writes, “Hello, Lab alumni, I have some great news. I have started a business coaching company called Salinger Coaching Solutions. At Salinger Coaching Solutions, we strive to empower success by empowering people. We work with business and nonprofit leaders to accelerate growth by accelerating positive change and peak performance. If you are a CEO, business owner, or manager please check out my website at salingerpeace.wixsite.com/website for more information.”

2009 Class Representative
Jaya Sah
jaya.t.sah@gmail.com

10s

Class of 2010*

Emily Kleeman writes, “Joe Klonowski and I welcomed our first child in July, a daughter named Leslie! Leslie is named after my mother, Leslie Hornig, former Lab fourth-grade science teacher. I’m currently working at Lab as an Assistant Teacher in Nursery 4


Interested in volunteering to serve as your class representative? Email the Alumni Relations and Development Office at labnotes@ucls.uchicago.edu.
and Joe is working as a software developer and manager.

2011 Class Representative
Rachel Sylora
rachelsylora@gmail.com

Matt Soble writes, “I recently celebrated Jeremy Woo’s 28th birthday in New York City. We are planning to drive back to Chicago for the holidays this fall. I currently work for Bright Power, an energy efficiency consulting firm based in New York City.”

2012 Class Representative
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2013 Class Representatives
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Amartya Das
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Leckstei
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Boluwatife (Bolu) Johnson
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Zoe Briskey has developed a theatre company right in the heart of our University of Chicago surrounding neighborhoods. South Side Stage seeks to uplift those at the intersections of marginalized races, sexualities, genders, and abilities by educating audiences with new stories centering around these communities, as well as delving into past works, challenging the structure they once held. South Side Stage works to uplift and lay bare the stories of those who have been either underrepresented or misrepresented in the theatre, in order to dissuasion audiences who have preconceived notions about these communities. This theatre pledges to provide support for artists of these communities and serve the direct community of the South Side of Chicago. Briskey is a theatre artist who has been creating, directing, and developing theatre in the New York City area and has decided it is time to come home and create a theatre company that gives everyone the chance to become an artist in the community she loves most.

2015 Class Representative
Michael Glick
mglick608@yahoo.com

Anna Knes (she/her pronouns) writes, “I'm now living in the Netherlands! Despite the European travel ban on the U.S., I was able to move to Amsterdam in late August, and now I’m here studying at the University of Amsterdam to get a master's in forensic science. During my most recent visit to Chicago, I had lunch with my old sixth grade humanities teacher, Ms. Kelly Storm. Other than that, I’ve mainly kept in touch with Jennifer Chien, ‘15 (they/them pronouns), and a few other Labbies via social media (a life-saver in the time of corona)! If there are any other Lab alumni living in the Netherlands, please let me know, as I would love to make some friends.”

2016 Class Representative
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2017 Class Representative
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2018 Class Representative
Julian Lark
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2019 Class Representative
Jonathan Lipman
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In Remembrance
Alumni Obituaries

Charles Compton, ’34, formerly of Glencoe, died on June 16, 2020, at his residence at Westminster Place, Evanston, Illinois, on the week of his 104th birthday. He was born on Chicago’s South Side, son of Don M. Compton and Wilda Woodruff Compton. Retired from a long career in broadcast advertising sales in agencies, at CBS, and as regional advertising manager for H&R Block, he remained active in civic affairs, including his term as President of the Glencoe Rotary Club at the age of 90. In 2014, he was among the recipients of the Congressional Gold Medal for service during WWII as a Coastal Air Patrol pilot flying anti-submarine patrols along the Atlantic seaboard. In 2017, the Civil Air Patrol unit in Evanston, where he was a mentor to young flight cadets, was renamed the Col. Charles Compton Composite Squadron IL-090 in his honor. He attended the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools in childhood, Lake Forest Academy in prep school, and earned his BA degree at Dartmouth College. He also attended the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business (now Chicago Booth). He was preceded in death by his wife Barbara, and his brothers Richard Compton, ’29 and Gail Compton, ’32. He is the proud father of retired Air Force Col. Arthur (Linda) Compton of Helena, Montana, software engineer Michael M. (Dyanne) Compton of San Jose, California, veterinary technician Susan M. Compton of Los Gatos, California, and Ann Compton Hughes (William) of Washington, DC, where she was a longtime White House correspondent for ABC News. He is beloved by seven grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. He was an accomplished videographer whose color and sound movies date back to the late 1940s. He was also a devoted animal lover, a passion he passed along to his children Susan and Arthur.

Jerry I. Solomon, ’41, A.B ’47, M.B.A.’49 died in May of 2020, at the age 95, in Longboat Key, Florida. He was born in Chicago on September 4, 1924. He served as an infantryman in the U.S. Army in the Third Battalion of the 132nd Infantry (Americal Division). He saw action in Bougainville, Leyte, and Cebu in the Pacific theater. He was also part of the occupying force in Tokyo. He was honorably discharged on December 7, 1945. He married the late Carol (Simon) Solomon on June 19, 1947, at the Belden-Stratford Hotel in Chicago. They had three children and they were married for 62 years before Carol’s passing in 2010. After graduating from the University of Chicago, he joined the US Reduction Company, a secondary aluminum smelter in East Chicago, Indiana. He stayed on at US Reduction through its sale to American Can Corporation, and in 1981 started Hunter-Douglas Metals, an international trading company, dealing in primary and secondary aluminum. He retired in 1991. Jerry was a member of KAM Isaiah Israel in the Hyde Park neighborhood of Chicago, as were his father and grandfather. He was an avid tennis player, golfer, and loved following all sports including his beloved Chicago White Sox. He will be missed by his son, James Solomon, ’72; his daughter, Judith Maley, ’78; his son, Robert Solomon, ’78 and his wife, Catherine (Green) Solomon, of Washington, DC, and his six grandchildren. Contributions in Jerry’s memory can be made to his favorite charities, the Kamii Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund or the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools.

George H. Daskal, Jr., ’42, Ph.B ’49, M.S.T. ’74, died on April 16, 2020 in Chicago, at age 94. After graduating from Lab, he earned a degree in mechanical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He took two years’ hiatus from his studies to serve his country in the U.S. Navy during WWII, completing his degree in 1947. As a lifelong resident of Chicago, he presided over several businesses for many years, including Perfection American and Superior Drug Company. In later years, he served on the Institutional Biosafety Committee for Chicago Medicine and Biological Sciences at the University of Chicago.
and volunteered his time with the Executive Service Corps as a consultant to small nonprofit businesses. He deeply loved Chicago and knew the city well. He continually impressed us with his keen ability to navigate anywhere and his remarkable knowledge of local history, including that of his great-great-grandparents who survived the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, their home at 13th and Indiana spared from the flames just blocks away. George greatly appreciated music, particularly folk and classical, and was a devoted patron of the Chicago Lyric Opera and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for most of his life. He loved horseback riding, world history, archaeology, traveling, and the Southwest, and imbued all of his daughters with a love of the same, particularly through time spent together in Santa Fe, NM. George is survived by his wife Judy Daskal, '46, daughters Elizabeth, '76, Jessica, '78, and Kathryn, '78, and four grandchildren.

Howard B. Abrams, '58, JD'66, died on January 27, 2020. Howard had served on the Detroit Mercy Law faculty since 1977, teaching a range of courses but focused primarily on copyright. His entire career was dedicated to teaching a range of courses but focused primarily on copyright. He retired in 2007. Bobby and Sedate enjoyed many adventures in their R.V. from cross country to favorite getaways along the western coastline. He was a self-taught acoustic guitarist and quite a poet. He loved music as well as watching professional sports, especially baseball. His exceptional culinary skills delighted his guests and he was a master on his outdoor grills. He was a mentor to his loving network of friends. He had a terrific sense of humor and was a generous man. He is survived by his wife, sisters Buff Smith, '66 (Richard), Suzy Dina, '68 (Vince), his two nieces, and five great nieces and nephews.

Frances Benham, '67 died January 22, 2020 in London, U.K. of cancer. She obtained her BSc and MSc at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. She obtained her PhD in human biochemical genetics in 1976 from University College London. She then did a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania. She moved back to England and did another postdoctoral fellowship at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund. From 1984 to 1990, she had a Lectureship in Genetics at Guy's Hospital Medical School. From 1990 to 1995, she was a Research Associate in the Department of Human Genetics at the University College of London, working with Sue Povey, the renowned geneticist. She took early retirement due to ill health in 1995. She worked on the forefront of medical genetics and part of her work contributed to the human genome project in its early days. She collected art, loved her garden and was particularly fond of cats. She is survived by her sister Marian Hofmann, '64 and brother-in-law Hank Hofmann.

Scott Jonathan Davis, '68, died on Tuesday, April 7, 2020 after a courageous struggle with ALS. He was born on the South Side of Chicago to the late Oscar Davis and the late Doris Koller Davis, PhD'48, AM'75. While growing up in Hyde Park and South Shore and attending the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools, he made close friendships that would endure for the rest of his life. Scott started at Yale University as a 16-year-old. After studying computer science, he opted for law school at Harvard University. He clerked for Judge Luther Swygert of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, and it was at the federal courthouse that he met his wife, Anne Megan, then clerking for another judge. He joined the law firm now known as Mayer Brown LLP in 1977, where he was to remain for 39 years. He became a partner in litigation, but decided mid-career to broaden his expertise to the burgeoning field of mergers and acquisitions as he found himself growing more interested in transactional law. In addition to practicing law, he taught classes at both the University of Chicago Law School and the Booth School of Business. He was a natural-born teacher and thrived on his interactions with students. In 1989, he was chosen by Mayor Richard M. Daley to serve as a member of the Chicago Police Board, and was Vice President of the Board from 1996 to 2013. He was deeply proud of his participation in that key civic institution, which included selecting the candidates for police superintendent and deciding many prominent police disciplinary cases. He is survived by his sons William (Kristen) Davis, '00, James (Soifa) Davis and Peter (Sara Jew-Lim) Davis, his sisters Elizabeth Davis, Susan (James) Brunner and Karie (Nicholas Minear) Davis, and his three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made in his memory to The Le Triune ALS Foundation or The Angel Fund for ALS Research.

Leslie Ann Jones, '69, MBA'79, died on or about April 11, 2020 along with her husband Tom Johnson, in their home in Oak Park, IL as a result of a home invasion. Leslie was 67 years old. As a lifelong learner, she went on from Lab to join the first undergraduate class at Yale to include women. Thereafter she received an MBA from the University of Chicago and a JD from Harvard Law School. After clerking for Justice Luther Swygert of the Seventh Circuit and working for the Legal Assistance Foundation, she joined Tom in private practice for the next 35 years, specializing in federal employment class actions, real estate, corporate transactions and zoning matters. Leslie was an avid reader, knitter, baker and jewelry maker. Leslie gave back to her community in many ways. She worked to support the Hephzibah Children's Association that operates a children's home and provides foster care services. She was also a strong supporter of the Oak Park Area Arts Council, which created a scholarship in her name. Leslie and Tom are survived by their three grown sons, Ben, Charlie, and Jake, her brother Linzy Jones, '72, her sister Linda Gunn, and her dear friends in Oak Park.

David Shopiro, '69 died in October from bladder cancer. David came to U-High in Freshman year: charismatic, athletic, immensely likeable. He went to college at Case Western Reserve, and after graduation spent a year in Israel, a formative experience resulting in lifelong friendships. On returning, he landed a manager's job in a restaurant by telling his prospective employer that he had managed the dining services on an Israeli kibbutz. This statement was not accurate in all respects (it was true that he had lived on an Israeli kibbutz) but David was a quick study and soon opened a restaurant of his own, Orly's, which became a Hyde Park fixture. He worked seven days a week, performed every imaginable job at the restaurant as needed, and befriended and delighted in his customers, employees, and the various entrepreneurs with whom he contracted. He catered all over the south side and donated food to various shelters. He loved the Cubs and the Bulls, talked politics with the best of them, remained devoted to Israel, and always had a dog who spent time in the back of the restaurant when inspectors were around. He was a lively writer. His humor was one-of-a-kind. He was generous, spontaneous, and warm. In the last few years David suffered some serious health problems resulting in significant personal and professional losses. The infectious optimism and bravado with which he launched his restaurant career no longer served him well. He was fortunate to find Renée Bass, a retired attorney with whom he lived for his last decade, and he cherished his 50th Lab School reunion—a bright spot pre- COVID, pre-cancer. He is survived by his sister Carolyn Davis. His classmate, Fred Langendorf, says “for me he was a travelling companion, a support (here in Minnesota) when my wife was seriously ill, a source of fun and reminiscence, always a close friend. I will miss him greatly.”
Joseph Andre McCord died on September 2, 2020. He was born in New York City at Harlem Hospital on April 26, 1946 to Margaret Wallace and Alan Jarvis. He was soon adopted by Milus McCord who raised him as his own with Margaret. He worked for the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools, the Chicago Urban League and the Chicago Public Schools. Joe was a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., for over 55 years. He is survived by his daughters Tesha McCord Poe, ’90 (Keith), Tovah McCord, ’93, siblings Milus Charles McCord (Donna), William Curtis McCord, Karen McCord, Margaret Juanita McCord Fleming (Allan), longtime partner Gale Liebman, two granddaughters, and many nieces, nephews, and friends throughout Chicago, the U.S. and abroad.

Mary Jane Yurchak died on Friday, August 9, 2019, in Warren, NJ, at age 83. Mary Jane was born on January 19, 1936, in New Brunswick, NJ, and grew up in Westfield, NJ, where she attended Westfield High School. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in political science and economics from Vassar College in 1958 and earned both a master's degree in elementary education (1959) and a doctorate in human development (1976) from Harvard University. Her early career included positions as a general-education and special-education teacher in New York and Massachusetts; director of education for the Brookline Early Education Project (MA); senior research associate and project director at the Huron Institute (Cambridge, MA); and assistant superintendent for special education and special services for the Wayland Public Schools (MA). She lectured at institutions including the Harvard Graduate School of Education, Wheelock College, Tufts University, and the University of Chicago. From 1985 to 2005, she served as head of three independent schools: the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools (IL), the Hewitt School (NY), and Poughkeepsie Day School (NY). Upon her retirement, Mary Jane relocated to her beloved house in the woods in Washington Depot, CT, where she devoted her energies to volunteering at the Gunn Memorial Library, the Steep Rock Preserve, and the Washington Ambulance Association, for which she obtained her certification as an emergency medical technician in 2012. She was also an avid gardener. Mary Jane is survived by her daughter Kathleen D. Fritz (Christopher), daughter Patricia Anne Rexford (Clisson), and son Dr. P. Michael Yurchak, ’90 (Molly). Mary Jane was preceded in death by her beloved daughter Mary Elizabeth Yurchak.

Correction
In the Spring 2020 issue of Lab, we inadvertently listed Marc Cogan as a member of the Class of 1965 in his obituary. Marc graduated from Lab 1961. We apologize for the error.

Emeritus Faculty

Peggy Bevington died at home on September 5, 2020. She was 87. Peggy was born Margaret Bronson Brown on January 11, 1933, in Cleveland. She attended Radcliffe College where she received her bachelor's in English. She then completed her master's degree in education at Harvard University in 1955. She married David Bevington in 1953. Their union lasted 66 years. They had four children, Stephen, ’80, Kate, ’82, and Sarah, ’88, and their son Philip who unfortunately passed in 1977 from an undiagnosed heart defect. In 1967, the couple moved to Chicago and bought a home on Blackstone Ave., where they lived for the rest of their lives. In 1973 after all her children had started school, she began teaching at Lab's Nursery School, a job she held for 30 years, eventually becoming head teacher. She liked three- and four-year-olds’ sense of wonder. Her daughter Sarah told the Hyde Park Herald, “She had wonderful ways of talking and seeing things. She had ways of making ordinary seem fun through her use of language.” She retired from teaching after a 30-year career but remained active in the University and Hyde Park community. From 2012 until her death, she served on the board of the Theraplay Institute in Evanston, which is dedicated to helping children, parents and caregivers develop attachment through play. She was also a precinct captain for the Independent Voters of Illinois, a bulwark of Hyde Park’s independent 20th century political culture, and a member of the local Service League. Peggy is survived by three children, five grandchildren, and her sister, Susan.