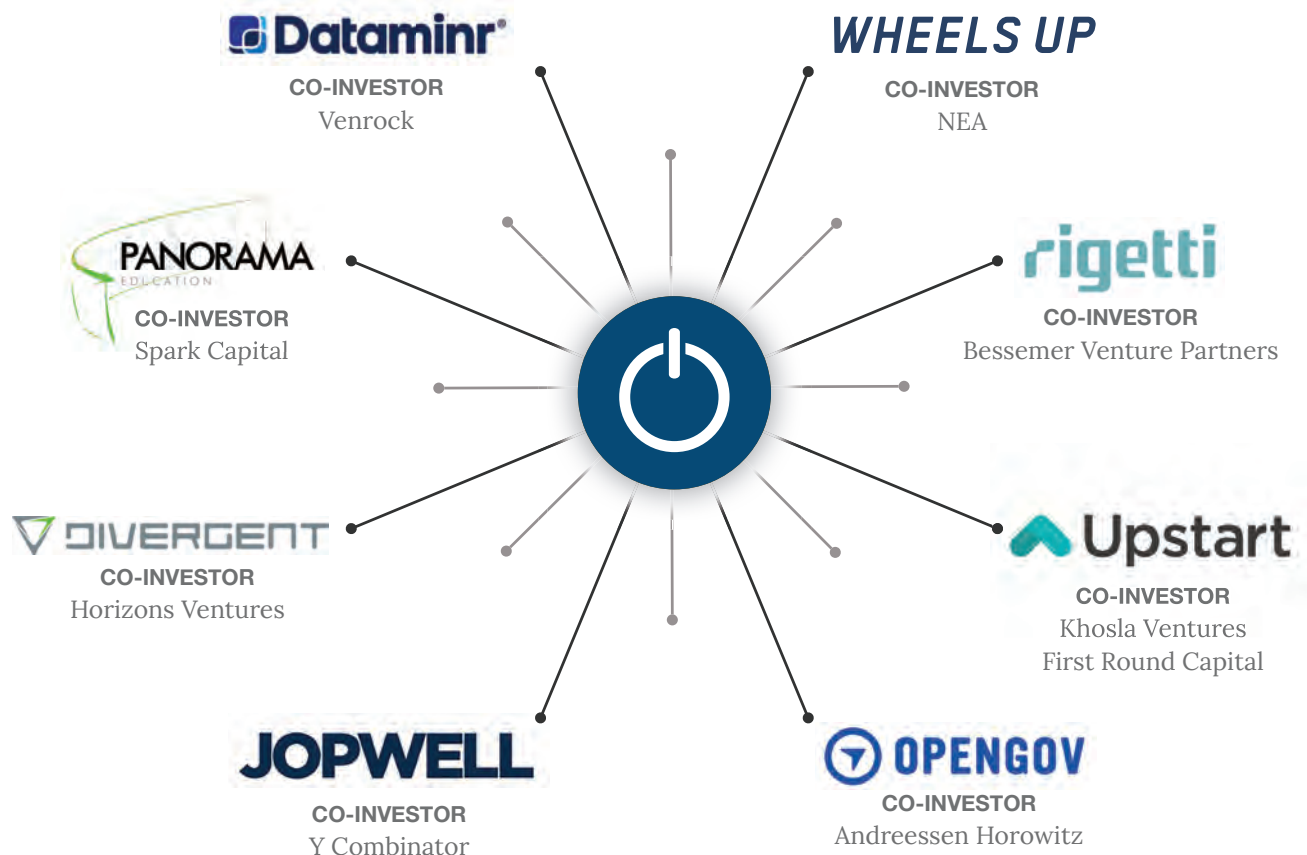


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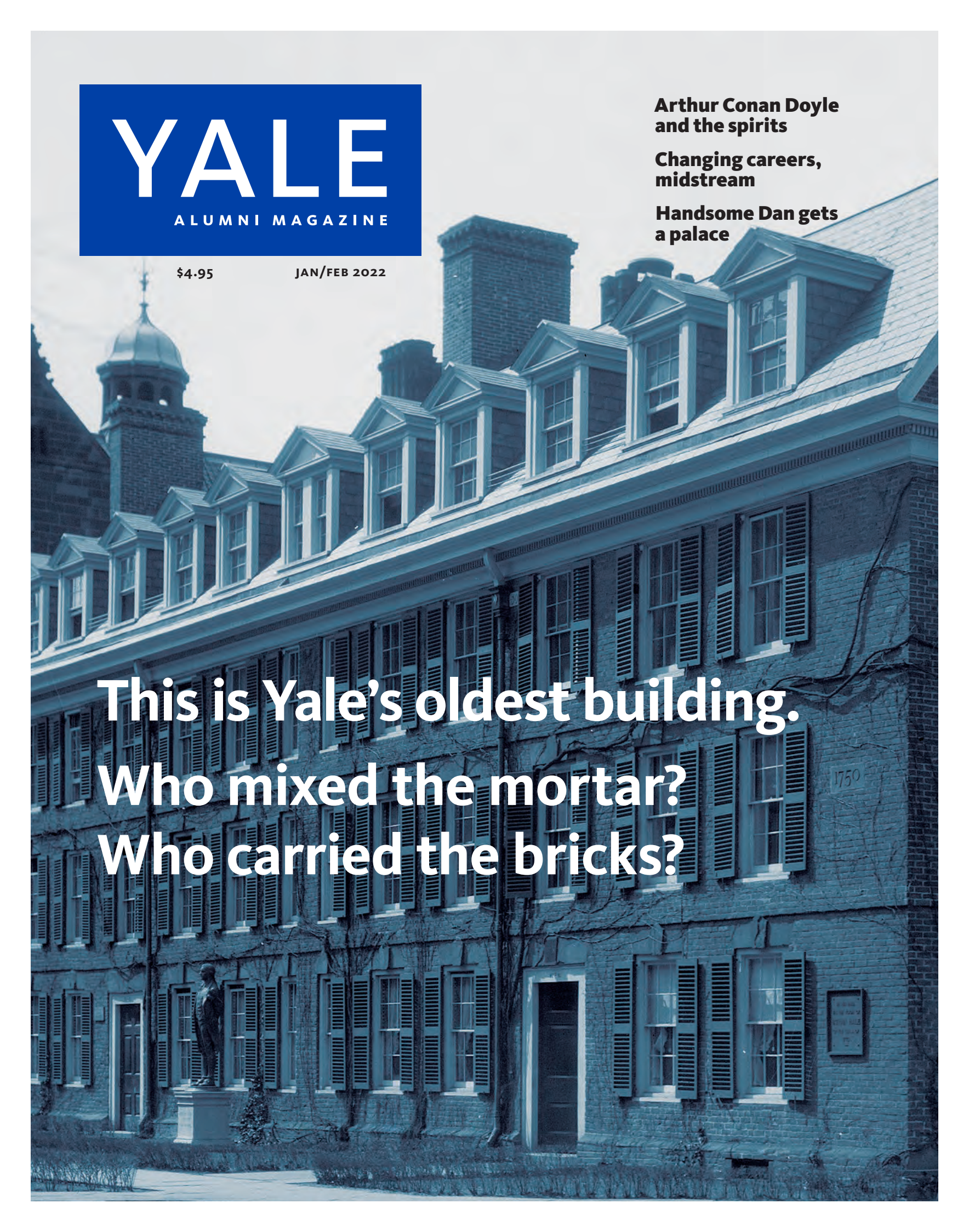
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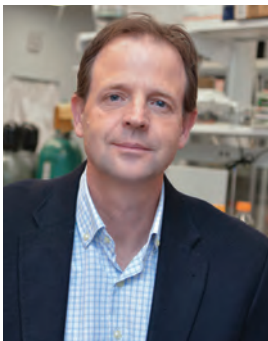
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from the editor

Science matters



Left to right: **Jordan Peccia**, **Akiko Iwasaki**, and **Saad Omer**.

Remember the long, disturbing spring of 2020? First the news from Asia. Then the initial cases in America and Europe. Then deaths. And then the masks, the retreat to home for those who were able to work from home, the general fear—and the lack of knowledge. What was this airborne monster capable of? In my family, there were a few weeks in the early spring of 2020 when we wore gloves in order to carry in the groceries. We'd wrap up all the boxes, cartons, and produce in plastic bags, and keep them wrapped up for three days.

But scientists around the world stepped up. And the Yale researchers were heroic. At first, only a few dozen labs were permitted to start work on COVID, and the need for caution against spreading the viral enigma led many scientists to spend lonely nights in the laboratory. Over time, many more have joined them. The work has delivered some critical results. Here are a very few:

JORDAN PECCIA, a professor of chemical and environmental engineering, collaborated with scientists around the world on an effort to find early signs of infection in a given community. The fastest way to detect the presence of the virus: test the local sewage. The CDC has posted a page titled “National Wastewater Surveillance System” on its website, detailing why and how individual communities should test and report the presence of COVID in their waste.

AKIKO IWASAKI is a professor of viral immunology whose lab has produced many discoveries. One of them is SalivaDirect™, a process for finding out whether COVID has traveled beyond its victims' nasal passages and into their lungs. Iwasaki's lab, partnering with assistant professor Caroline Johnson's lab, also found a reason why COVID tends to affect men more violently than it affects women: our T-cells find and destroy infected cells,

but men's T-cells begin to disappear in their 30s and 40s, earlier and more rapidly than women's. Meanwhile, Iwasaki is currently working on a vaccine that can be delivered via a nasal spray.

SAAD OMER, head of the Yale Institute for Global Health, is a vaccinologist and infectious disease epidemiologist who has conducted studies in the United States, Guatemala, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, South Africa, and Australia. Listed among his projects: burial site surveillance in Pakistan to estimate COVID mortality; and testing five social media campaigns to find out how well they promote vaccination.

Many Yale scientists have also been explaining COVID news and delivering advice onscreen, on the radio, and in the papers. In early December, Omer published an op-ed in the *New York Times* titled “Biden's Highly Selective Travel Ban Doesn't Make Sense.” (The ban was imposed on people traveling from southern Africa, but Omicron had already been found in nations around the world.) Omer and his colleagues are so active that, even as I write this, a note about their latest project has popped up in my email: Yale will work with the Made to Save campaign to raise vaccination numbers in communities of color. The plan is to teach health care workers how to do a better job of explaining just why the vaccine is essential.

Albert Ko, the Raj and Indra Nooyi Professor of Public Health, is another expert so frequently quoted and interviewed in the press that he has had a chance to repeat, in many different ways, how vital it is to get vaccinated. He's also a regular on the Connecticut news, explaining the ups and downs of the COVID spikes and troughs and the idiosyncrasies of the variants. Recently, he gave us some reassuring news on Fox61: “The vaccines—although they're not one hundred percent protective against being infected and becoming mildly ill—do protect against severe disease and hospitalizations.”

With Omicron in the air (literally), it feels almost as if we've circled back to that frightening 2020 spring. But keep hanging on. Yale scientists are working on it.

Kathrin Day Lassila '81
editor@yalealumnimagazine.com

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Kehinde Wiley (Yale MFA 2001), *Portrait of Lynette Yiadom-Boakye*, Jacob Morland of Capplethwaite, 2017, oil on canvas, Yale University Art Gallery and Yale Center for British Art, Purchased with a gift from Mary and Sean Kelly in honor of Courtney J. Martin, Paul Mellon Director of the Yale Center for British Art, and with the Janet and Simeon Braguin Fund and Friends of British Art Fund. Photo by Harold Shapiro

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Tiffany and Company, *Coffee Service for Alice Belin du Pont*, New York, 1910–11. 18-karat gold. Yale University Art Gallery, Gift of G. d'Anselot Belin, B.A. 1939

YALE UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY

Memories of Toad's Place



Bravo to Brian Phelps and Randall Beach for “The Night the Stones Played Toads” and for the decision to make that the cover story in the November/December issue.

I sheepishly but shamelessly admit that it was, by far, my fastest response time from receiving to reading an article in your or any other magazine. When I arrived on campus in 1993, one of my first orders of business was applying to serve as a cocktail waitress at Toad's, despite having no previous experience in the role. I just had to work there, given that it truly is “where legends come to play.”

Fortunately, I got the gig, and despite putting up with a lot of lunkheads—er, customers—I was able to see a number of amazing performances, from David Byrne to Cracker to The Tragically Hip. The best though, which leads to my only beef with the article, was Iggy Pop—who, I'm proud to say, regally touched my nose as I gazed up at him from the front row. Mr. Pop should be on the curated list of performers who played Toad's that accompanied your article. Otherwise, thanks for publishing the official tale. What an amazing night that must have been!

Colleen Coyle Mathis '95MEM
Tucson, AZ

I was in New Haven on August 12, 1989. I was a graduate student in New York City, and we drove up that day to peruse biology journals in Kline Science Library that we did not have at Albert Einstein, have a look around the Yale campus, and, as always, drive past the windows of my old rooms in TD. We walked past Toad's Place that afternoon and there was a lot of activity. I wondered what was going on but did not give it much more thought, only to read the next day that the Rolling Stones had played there that night!

This year for my birthday, my daughters gifted me a subscription to Storyworth, where every week a new question is posed to me about my life. I answer, and then at the end of the year all my replies will be

bound together. Last week the question was “What advice would you now give to your 20-year-old self?” I have no big desire to change my life, and who knows if a different path would have been more rewarding, but there are little things that I missed that I would like to have over.

So I would tell myself: If you ever happen to be in New Haven some time in the future and you walk by Toad's and see a lot of commotion, stick around and go inside. You will not regret it.

Robert Kraft '77
Tucson, AZ

Unfortunately for those of us who graduated in the mid-to-late Sixties, Toad's hadn't been conceived. In my junior year ('65-'66), when the major revolution in rock and roll was going on, there was just one local place that brought in what was happening, and that was the New Haven Arena. A hockey rink with a stage.

Here's where New Haven was part of history. In 1964 the Rolling Stones were scheduled to play there, but because they hadn't made it big, the concert was canceled. By 1965 they were indeed happening and embarked on what was called the “Out of Our Heads Tour.” To a sold-out crowd, they came to the New Haven Arena on November 4, 1965. “Satisfaction,” among other great tunes, had made them the sensation they were.

Another historic event was Bob Dylan's transition to electric. He'd played the Arena in March 1965 on a dual bill with Joan Baez—all acoustic. My friends and I didn't see that one. But then “Subterranean Homesick Blues” came out and blew everybody away. So Dylan decided to do a world tour. He assembled a band that included everybody that would become The Band. They came to the Arena on February 18, 1966. He played an acoustic set, and then the band came on and once again blew everybody away. We all went to that one.

The other concert we went to was James Brown and the Famous Flames, with James doing his crazy cape removal act and sending the very mixed crowd wild.

They tore the Arena down around the

time Toad's arrived. But for some of us Yalies, that was the place in New Haven to ride the momentous upheaval in music and culture in the Sixties.

Joe Breck '67
Tucson, AZ

As someone who used to live at the other end of York Street—down by the art museum—and whose husband Elliott Kone '49 was a fellow of Branford College, and as the author of 50 novels writing as Blair Bancroft, I have to take a moment to say that the Toad's article was one of the very best I've seen in your magazine. Thanks for sharing those special moments for those of us old enough to remember the Stones way back when.

Grace Kone
Longwood, FL

Your list of famous acts that played Toad's has one glaring omission, arguably the greatest bar band of all time: NRBQ.

John P. Rogan '82
Greenwich, CT

You missed a few big appearances, and I'll name two. I saw Alice in Chains play, and they sold signed CDs off the stage for \$10 (oops, didn't buy one). The best part was they were the opening act for none other than Iggy Pop!

Rob Chapman
Omaha, NE

Great article. Thanks for publishing. I'll surely buy the book. Three more acts to add to the list: Seal, Eddie Money, Counting Crows. I have the ticket stubs somewhere in my archive!

John Pakutka '92MPPM
Branford, CT

Kudos for diversity

I just wanted to let you know that I think the November/December 2021 issue of the *Yale Alumni Magazine* is the best I've seen, in terms of diversity in its photos and graphics. Often the photos (whether in articles, ads, or of contributors) are heavily of white people, with little variety. Your latest

“I entered Yale as a prospective math major, but quickly converted to a history major after taking Professor Kagan’s survey course.”

issue included distinguished alumni of color, and even the graphic of a person by the COVID update was Black.

Keep up the good work!
Cindy Miller Lovell '92MSN
Madison, WI

Learning from Kagan

Your article on Professor Don Kagan (“Remembering Donald Kagan,” November/December) brought back fond memories. He was simply the best teacher I ever had. I entered Yale in the fall of 1973 as a prospective math major, but quickly converted to a history major after taking Professor Kagan’s survey course on ancient Greek history.

I was one of the few lucky undergraduates to take his graduate seminar on the Peloponnesian War; I stood in awe of graduate students like Paul Rahe [’71, ’77PhD], who could actually speak and read Attic Greek. Professor Kagan graciously agreed to act as my adviser for my senior thesis on the expediency of repressing rebellion in the Athenian empire.

I caught up with Professor Kagan at a Hartford Yale Club event many years later and asked him to autograph my copy of his seminal masterpiece *The Outbreak of the Peloponnesian War*. I thought I would receive only an autograph, but he took time to write: “To Paul, in fond memory of the courses we had together and all that I learned from you and your colleagues. It is a joy to have seen you again.”

This epitomizes him: he was kind to think he learned from us, but of course, exactly the opposite was true.

Paul L. Bourdeau '77
West Hartford, CT

I graduated two years before Professor Kagan came to Yale, so I never had a chance to take his survey course on ancient Greek history. But I’m having a ball taking it now, since I discovered that all the lectures are available for free from Open Yale Courses, both as videos on YouTube and as podcasts, which are downloadable for iPhone or Android. I listen to the podcasts on my morning walks and watch the videos on my

cable system in my home at night. Right now I’m just starting on the Peloponnesian War. You’re right: he was brilliant, pugnacious and, above all, fun! And I’m so glad I still have the chance to enjoy and learn from him, even though he’s left us.

Martin Snapp '67
Oakland, CA

Thank you for the wonderful remembrances of Professor Donald Kagan. He was such a superb teacher, brilliant scholar, and big-hearted person. I learned much from him, and I think of those lessons often.

These memories caused me to recall some of the great professors I had the good fortune to encounter as a Yale undergraduate: Donald Kagan, H. Bradford Westfield, Wolfgang Leonhard, Abbas Amanat, John Merriman, Henry Turner, Elie Wiesel (visiting from BU), and many more. Several of these scholars and teachers have passed on, alas, but I’m sure I’m not the only one who counts himself lucky to have enjoyed the opportunity to hear and learn from them many years ago.

David Wecht '84, '87JD
Pittsburgh, PA

Thanks for the tribute to Donald Kagan. I still have fond memories of my classes with him. However, there was one minor error. The Al Bernstein that Cynthia Farrar refers to in her note had to be the late Dr. Alvin H. Bernstein, a graduate of Cornell (BA, PhD) and Oxford (BA, MA). While he was a brilliant man and wonderful teacher, he never received a degree from Yale or its law school, as you indicate. He did teach at Yale during the 1974–75 academic year, and he left his mark on many of us who were privileged to study Roman history with him.

Paul Weick '76
Bay Village, OH

Mr. Weick is right; that’s the Al Bernstein to whom Professor Farrar was referring. The Yale degree indicators after his name were mistakenly added during the editing process, and were not Farrar’s mistake. We regret the error.—Eds.

Chat



On a Throwback Thursday in football season, we posted this cover from November 1996 marking coach Carm Cozza’s retirement after 32 years. We asked alums on Facebook what they remembered about the Cozza years. “I was his last captain,” wrote Robert Masella ’97. “I remember the lineup of 30+ of his captains at the last home Yale-Princeton game. Truly a legendary man.” Adrienne Cotterell ’78 remembers “students attending games.”

We sparked the rhapsodic in Richard Beacham ’68: “I was an undergrad and then a grad student at Yale from 1964 to 1972. I remember the sheer excitement and exuberance of going out to the Bowl, especially on the ‘big’ football weekends. Going out, often by bus from Phelps, and more often than not walking back was a sort of celebration, nearly always. Sitting in the usually near-full or brimming stands, watching frequently victorious teams and having frequent swigs of Southern Comfort to ward off the cold. ‘Bliss it was in that dawn to be alive, but to be young was very Heaven.’”

Art by alumnae

I find it curious that in your article on the exhibit of art by women alumni at the Art Gallery (“Conversations Across Time,” November/December) there is no illustration of work by women who earned a graduate degree in the Art School before 1961. I un-

“I couldn’t afford to just paint, so I took a job designing jewelry for Tiffany & Co. . . . This job changed the course of my career.”

Our own horn dept.



The *Yale Alumni Magazine* was a winner in this year’s nationwide Folio: competition. Yale professors Larry Gladney, Emily Greenwood (now at Princeton), and Gerald Jaynes wrote the essays for “The Long Agony of Racism” in our July/August 2020 issue. Their combined pieces won the prize for Essays and Criticism published in a nonprofit magazine. Editor Kathrin Day Lassila ’81 won for “New to the World,” her September/October 2020 column about children’s literature expert Leonard Marcus ’72, in the Column/Blog category for



nonprofit magazines. Art director Jeanine Dunn won an honorable mention for the design of “Yale vs COVID,” a series of articles in our July/August 2020 issue.

The magazine also won two Bronze awards for the May/June 2020 feature “Coping with a Crisis,” by executive editor Mark Alden Branch ’86, about the first days of the pandemic at Yale. The Council for the Advancement and Support of Education recognized him twice—first for the northeastern District I contest, and then for an elite Circle of Excellence award.

derstand that the article is a brief visual survey; however, women’s work from more than half of the 150 years is not represented in the selection. I have not yet seen the show or the catalog, but I hope there is critical analysis of specific works created by women prior to 1950, the arrival year of Josef Albers and the change in pedagogy.

That earlier work may or may not be praised, but it should not be effaced. I encourage you to run a selection of reproductions of that work; for example, life drawing, tempera painting, and composition studies by women studying at Yale. Readers would be interested and become better informed.

William Keller ’72
West Newbury, MA

The exhibition itself does indeed include a wider chronological range of work going back to the earliest days of the School of Art.—Eds.

I am a female graduate of Yale School of Art with a degree in painting. I was thrilled to see the article (and the show) on women artists who went to Yale. I write to you because I had a most curious career—possibly the only one to come out of the MFA program with this history.

After leaving Yale I lived and painted in New York City for approximately ten years and had numerous shows, including one-person shows—one, for example, at Aquavella Gallery in New York City. I couldn’t afford to just paint, so I took a job designing jewelry for Tiffany & Co. I

was hired by John Loring [’60], the legendary design director and executive vice president, who also went to Yale. This job changed the course of my career: over the years, I worked for Tiffany three different times for three different executive vice presidents. I also designed many pieces for such renowned international jewelry companies as Cartier, Van Cleef & Arpel, and Bulgari, and I was in Bergdorf Goodman with my own collection for ten years.

I have been published in various books and articles, and I am in museum collections such as the Museum of Arts and Design in New York City. My designs run from \$50 to \$5 million.

Rachelle Epstein ’71MFA
New York, NY

Chip Benson’s wisdom

I am a Yalie, Class of 1955, and a professor at Rhode Island School of Design since 1957 and still at it! Regarding your article about Richard Benson (“Creation by Camera,” November/December): the Benson studio carved the stones on the graves of my father and mother, and I knew Chip’s mother. RISD can lay claim on the Benson name with pride and shared sentiments.

I simply loved his excellent counsel that you cited on the page of recognition of his contributions to “academia”: “When you tell people something, you keep them from ever knowing it” is a great line, shared by RISD and Eli Yale. And “The world is smarter than you are” is simply superb as a lesson in something like humility, or maybe “Americanism” at its best—democracy at its finest.

Anyway, as a voice from the final reunion of the Class of ’55, thanks for bringing my career and the Benson career into a poetic place together!

Michael Fink ’55
Providence, RI

For fossil fuel divestment

The university’s “For Humanity” capital campaign (“Looking Outward,” November/December) has raised campus concerns regarding overemphasis on the sciences and inadequate generosity toward

the broader New Haven community. What most struck me, beyond the hubris, was the notion that funds raised and then invested by Yale in an ongoing way in the fossil fuel industry could be described as “for humanity.”

The fossil fuel industry is already causing immense damage to humanity in both senses of that word. For example, fossil fuel particulate matter causes 8.7 million premature deaths annually, and the overall impact of climate change on human life and well-being dwarfs this grim headcount. And our civilization, our humanity in the broader sense, is also in jeopardy, in the form of everything from xenophobic responses to climate displacement to the flooding of the Smithsonian.

It is past time for Yale to divest from fossil fuels. The university cannot stand for humanity while embedded in the business as usual that spells its destruction.

Miranda Massie '92MA
Brooklyn, NY

Massie is the director of the Climate Museum and a public voices fellow with the Op Ed Project and Yale Program on Climate Change Communication.

Our panel on voting

At the end of the article “The Future of Voting” (September/October) was a box saying, “Weigh In! Tell us your thoughts about this article.” Well, here I am!

First of all, let me thank you and Mr. Branch for trying (albeit unsuccessfully) to nudge the conversation away from hyperpartisanship. Credit also goes to Professor Ellen Katz who, while she did not voice disagreement with anything said by the other two panelists, at least nodded to the fact that there are other points of view. Professor Katz '91, '94JD, also avoided the insulting and inflammatory rhetoric that characterized Professors Hacker '00PhD and Blight.

That said, the article was a perfect illustration of the need for viewpoint diversity. There was no one—no one—to point out that there are actually serious arguments against some of the positions that Profes-

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Do you believe science journalism matters?

Sharon Begley did. Sharon (Yale '77) was an exceptional science writer, the long-time Science Editor of Newsweek, science columnist at the Wall Street Journal, and a Pulitzer finalist in 2021 for her Covid coverage at STAT. She lucidly explained complex science in lyrical prose, making clear to ordinary readers what the latest research meant and why it was important.

We lost Sharon, at only 64, to lung cancer in a never-smoker, in January 2021. Her husband, Ned Groth, and the Council for the Advancement of Science Writing have established the **Sharon Begley Science Reporting Award**. This annual prize will recognize outstanding science journalism and support a major new report on an important science topic, rewarding and promoting the art Sharon practiced.

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“This whole exchange consisted of, essentially, ‘We’re right and anyone who disagrees is not just wrong but stupid, lying, and racist.’”

sors Hacker and Blight took. As a result, the monochromatic perspective of the presentation presumably would come across as either boring or “Right on!” to those who agree, on one hand, or either boring or infuriating to those who do not.

There was also a complete lack of self-awareness. Professor Blight says, “We’ve just had an election where part of the side that lost did not accept it.” Has he no familiarity with Hillary Clinton’s loss to Donald Trump, and the public and persistent refusal to accept that outcome? Meanwhile, Professor Blight places himself in the class of “those of us who live in a world of reason and logic and research—universities, journalists, people who believe in the empirical bottom line.” Does he have the slightest idea how arrogant and elitist that comment sounds?

Professor Hacker, for his part, can’t re-

sist smearing those who disagree as racists, citing “fear about white Americans losing power in a multiracial society.” Never mind arguments about government overreach, hot-button issues like abortion and the sexual revolution, the wisdom (or not) of shutting down the economy in response to contagious disease or climate change, and a host of other issues. For Professor Hacker, racial bias is “really at the heart of the conflict we face today.”

I could add comments about Professor Blight’s call for his team to “rebel” against part of the country and have “a true revolution” (his words!) against part of the Constitution, namely, the Electoral College, which he contemptuously dismisses as “the most ridiculous thing in the Constitution that has survived.” But the point is that this whole long exchange of statements consisted of, essentially, “We’re right and

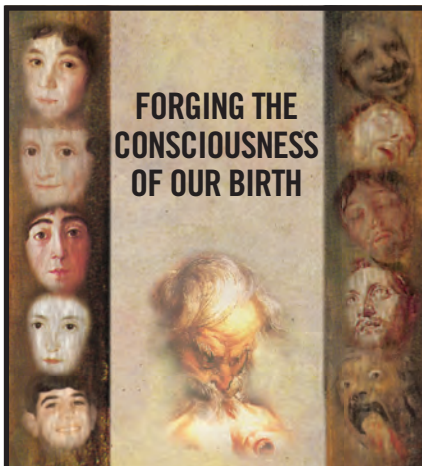
anyone who disagrees is not just wrong but stupid, lying, and racist.”

Walter Weber ’84JD
Alexandria, VA

Yale and its athletes

Jeffrey Manning’s [’81] feature (“Football and its Discontents,” September/October) offered a window into the cultural and social experience of Yale College football players in the classroom and campus life. I was both sorry to hear my classmates may have experienced unkindness and exclusion on that basis, and glad to better understand the community they found in one another and the contributions they make to Yale as a group.

However, Manning brought an otherwise thoughtful piece to a sour close, sneering in his conclusion at Yale’s investment in a strategy to increase the diversity



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“There has been a baffling and unfortunate deterioration in civility as well as respectful discussion in Yale’s campus forums.”

and inclusiveness of its faculty (much more comprehensive than the response to Halloween costumes he made it out to be), and implying it was excessive relative to the “paltry million or two” he’d settle for seeing committed to civility toward athletes.

Access to empathy and inclusiveness is not itself a competitive sport; no one is served by pretending that investments to address the profound underrepresentation of minorities among Yale’s faculty and leadership come at the cost of investment in a culture of true collegiality among students. Indeed, positioning these goals in opposition to one another misses a valuable opportunity: Manning might instead consider how the slights he experienced as a football player are an echo (setting aside any debate over how distant or faint, which he might also consider) of the experiences of many of his classmates and teammates

of color, in the LGBTQ+ community, or who came from low-income and other underrepresented and culturally excluded backgrounds, and how joining in the common cause of advocating for the equity and inclusion of those groups might be a faster, more meaningful, and more lasting path to his personal goals for athletes’ treatment.

Liz Woods Stiverson ’09
Tiburon, CA

Jeff Manning aptly describes his positive experience in Yale football as an undergraduate and as an alumnus—a sense of belonging, achievement, discipline, respect for others, and shared friendships for life. These sharply contrast with his amusing memory of an adolescent’s attempt at put-down, probably stemming from his own sense of insecurity.

However, his experience was a harbinger

of things to come. There has been a baffling and unfortunate deterioration in civility as well as respectful discussion in Yale’s campus forums, reported by local and national media as rude, disrespectful, vituperative, hostile exchanges, full of invective detached from any factual bases and usually suspected to have ulterior political motives if not sponsorship. Yale itself identified what we can now see as the beginnings of this threat to academic discourse and intellectual rigor as early as 1975 in the Woodward “Report on Freedom of Expression at Yale,” reissued in hard copy in 2016.

Our athletic brethren, especially the football players and those who persevered to become varsity, are irreplaceable in contributing to easy identification with the broader Yale community. My 1952 classmates on the football team captained by



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Chat



Every weekday, we post a photo of the campus on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and our Daily Snap blog. Our most popular recent photo was this shot of Saybrook Court in November, at the peak of foliage season. “Apparently from in front of the guard house at the north gate,” surmised Steve Garner ’76, correctly. “I watched the 1976 Olympics in that room the summer after I graduated.”

MARK ALDEN BRANCH '86



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Bob Spears are recalled by this non-player with fondness, admiration, respect, and gratitude for their efforts as well as the memorable weekend experiences surrounding the games. They did not have an easy time and less than optimal coaching, but to this day are inextricably linked to the bright college years of the Class of 1952.

What the football team gains, and what it gives to its players and the Yale community, is first and foremost recognizable identity, continuity, and a sense of unifying affiliation, difficult to quantify but providing continuing sustainable value to us all. For them it is an investment of personal resources for the community's as well as their individual good and gain. Enshrining differences in the resin of diversity seems motivated by indulgent political correctness. As currently practiced, it may threaten to prolong—not ameliorate—divisiveness, disrespect, and acrimony, and shortchange the undergraduate, graduate, and wider Yale community by unintentionally subverting Yale's standards of academic excellence and espoused social missions.

David Weild III '52, '59LLB
Pelham, NY

What are you *for*?

Tribute to a friend

A cherished and loyal friend of Yale passed in January of this year: Andrew Dowe '08, '20PhD ("Loss," May/June). Soon after his passing, many Yale students, current and past, contributed to a foundation in his memory, organized on Facebook by Kirk Warner. This is to recognize all of us, current, past, and future, who paid farewell.

To Andrew:

You said you knew it, said as much.
Didn't stand for nothing,
Withstood much of what
You knew would make you
What you became—
A star.

Kirk Warner '17PhD
Raleigh, NC

Ousted from L&B

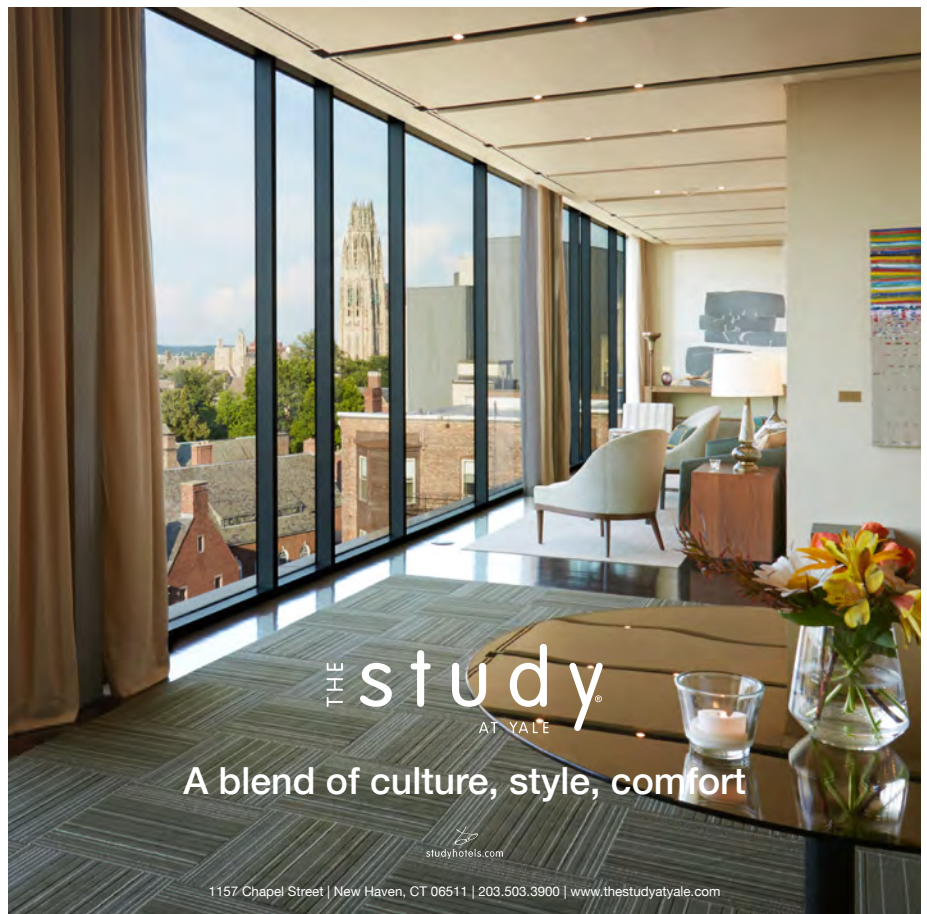
Reading about the planned renovation of the Linonia and Brothers Reading Room (see page 21) reminds me of the time in freshman year when I was very politely but very firmly ejected from that "quintessential library space." One day the instructor of my heavy-duty German class mentioned Mark Twain's "The Awful German Language" from *A Tramp Abroad*. I went to Sterling and settled down for a pleasant read in the gentlemen's-club atmosphere of the L&B. As I read, I ran the gamut of hilarity. I chuckled. I snickered. I guffawed. I chortled. Finally, I exploded in a full-throated roar of laughter. It was then that I was asked to leave the premises. That was a long time ago. Now I wonder: has the passage of seven decades erased my peccadillo? Will I ever be admitted again?

Michael L. Lazare '53
Hollis, NH

We welcome readers' letters, which should be emailed to yam@yale.edu or mailed to Letters Editor, PO Box 1905, New Haven, CT 06509-1905. Due to the volume of correspondence, we are unable to respond to or publish all mail received. Letters accepted for publication are subject to editing. Priority is given to letters of fewer than 300 words.

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light & verity

Five festive weekends

After two unnaturally quiet commencement and reunion seasons, this spring is going to be a heck of a ride. To make up for some of what was missed during the pandemic, Yale will stage two commencements and three weekends of reunions in May and June (subject to change if COVID conditions worsen). Commencement for the Class of 2022 will occur as usual on the Monday before Memorial Day—May 23 this year—but the university will also stage a ceremony “with traditional elements including regalia, processions, and music” on May 14 for the 2020 graduates—whose commencement was entirely virtual. And an extra weekend of reunions will accommodate some of the classes who missed milestone reunions in 2020 and 2021.

THE REUNION SCHEDULE:

MAY 26–29: Senior reunion, 1952, 1957, 1967, 1970, 1992, 1997, 2002, 2007.

JUNE 2–5: 1960, 1972, 1977, 1987, 1995, 2012, 2017.

JUNE 9–12: 1956, 1962, 1971, 1982, 1996, 2015, 2016.

For more on reunions, go to alumni.yale.edu/reunions.

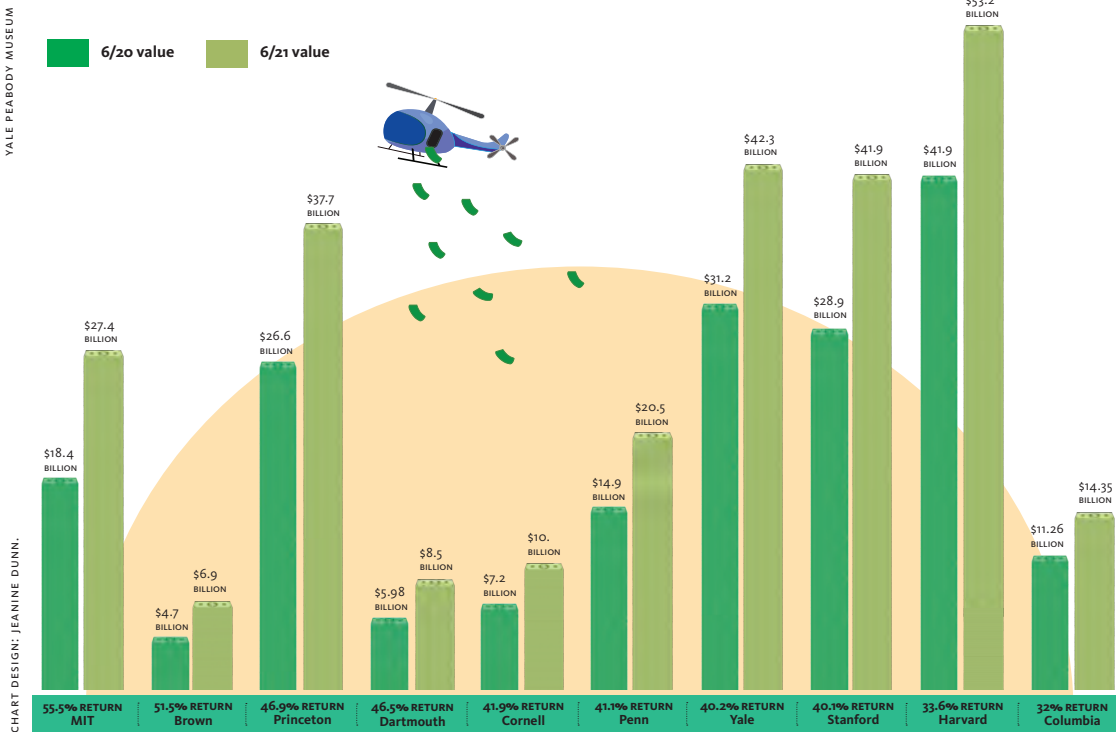


Without walls

Moving a class or section outside—like this one, spotted on Old Campus in October—has always been an occasional treat for students when a teacher found the weather irresistibly fine. But for some faculty, what was once a whim became a strategy. This past fall, with the Delta and Omicron variants threatening, some teachers felt that teaching outdoors was safer, even in a mostly vaccinated population. Political science and humanities lecturer Mordechai Levy-Eichel '15PhD found space in tents put up by the university—or sometimes simply on the grass—for his section of Directed Studies. “In DS, we start with Plato’s dialogues, which begin with Socrates out and about, so it seemed appropriate,” he says. Being outside also gave students the option of going without masks, which were required indoors. “We’ve had the ability to look at each other’s faces while we argue and debate,” says Levy-Eichel. The idyll continued until near the end of the term, when the cold chased his classes back to their assigned indoor locations.

Growth spurt

2020–21 is a year many of us might just as soon forget, but for Yale’s endowment it was a year to remember. The university’s portfolio earned a 40.2 percent return during the 12 months that ended last June 30, and the value of the endowment grew from \$31.2 billion to \$42.3 billion. Yale was no outlier—the S&P 500 gained 38.4 percent over the same period, and Yale’s peers reported comparably stratospheric gains. Here’s how the other Ivy League schools, plus MIT and Stanford, did during the same period.



Quoted

“Free admission is a means, not the end. It’s a tool in a much larger effort toward becoming a more accessible and welcoming institution. We view the renovation and the changes in admissions and programming as an opportunity to become the Peabody Museum our community needs, because that’s the museum we want to be.”



—David Skelly, director of the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, in a university press release announcing that the museum will offer free admission in perpetuity when it reopens in 2024 after a renovation and expansion.

COVID update

As the fall semester came to a close, COVID risks—and precautions—were increasing at the university. Some news:

- The university went from a yellow to a green COVID alert level on November 4, responding to lower levels of infection in the campus community. This allowed for some relaxation of rules on gatherings, events, and performances.
- But just three and a half weeks later, as infections rose again on campus and in Connecticut, the campus went back to the yellow alert level.
- Also in December, the university required students to return to twice-weekly testing and discouraged nonessential travel for the rest of the semester.
- Forty-seven students who were planning to live in mixed-college housing in McClellan Hall in the fall were reassigned just as the semester began, as the university decided it needed McClellan for COVID isolation housing. Twenty found other on-campus housing; Yale put up the rest at the Omni Hotel. In November, they were able to return to McClellan.
- In December, the university announced that staff who have been working a hybrid schedule (a combination of in-office and remote days) should continue to do so through June 30.



RICHARD BERGE

Unions and university agree on contract

In late September, after 16 months of negotiations on Zoom and demonstrations in the streets, Yale's two largest unions, Locals 34 and 35 of UNITE-

little. Or they can step up for a better future for us all."

The university was cautious at the outset. "We didn't know what was going on with the financial outlook of the university," says Jack F. Callahan Jr. '80, Yale's senior vice president for operations. He sits on the Policy Board, a committee of senior officials in the administration and leaders from the unions that negotiates the university's labor contracts. "We had no idea how the pandemic was going to hit us, the stock market was incredibly volatile, the endowment was going down. Now, as it turns out, it worked out. Our revenues held up better than we thought, and the endowment did extremely well. So as we went through this on the university's side, we also realized that we could make broader financial choices than we thought we could going into it."

By the fall, each side had settled in, and the terms of the new contract were starting to crystallize. The final September agreement, among other things, expands retirement income benefits; includes no-layoff and one-for-one hiring clauses; provides options for remote work; raises hourly wages for members of 34 by an average of \$3.07

THOMAS BREEN/NEW HAVEN INDEPENDENT



Members of Local 35, including vice president Brian Wingate (left) voted on a new contract with Yale on the Green on October 20.

HERE, agreed to terms for a new five-year contract and arrived at a tentative peace with the university. The city's labor-dominated Board of Alders had been ramping up the pressure, voting to close Prospect Street to traffic for a day to let union members, local activists, and students retouch a protest mural that had been painted on the asphalt back in May—the bold white letters between the cemetery and Becton Center that read, "Yale: Respect New Haven." And in the background of it all was the clock—a January 1, 2022 deadline that, if missed, might have triggered the unions' first walkout since 2003.

Disputes between Yale and the unions come around between every two and eight years, but for the most part every five, and they typically take the same shape. The unions frame them around ethics, a choice between basic loyalty and brutal austerity; the university frames them around economics—the contingency of its finances and the need for compromise. Toward the beginning of this round, in large part thanks to the pandemic, the tone was even more existential. "Yale has a choice to make," wrote Barbara Vereen, organizing director of Local 34, the university's clerical and technical union, in a July 2020 op-ed in the *New Haven Register*. "They can try to use a historic public health and economic crisis to extract even more from those who have so

For the fourth time in a row, a contract without a strike.

over five years; and raises 35's by an average of \$4.14 (13 percent across the board). It also commits to a kind of future-proofing jobs guarantee to prevent layoffs in the face of new automation: what Jane Savage, Yale's associate vice president of union-management and strategic initiatives, calls "an alternate placement process when jobs are displaced to provide employment security in the face of the pandemic recovery and technological change."

On a warm October night, hundreds of members of Local 35 gathered on the New Haven Green to vote on these terms, and ratified them overwhelmingly. About two miles to the west, on a lawn near the Yale Bowl, many of 34's 3,700 members met to do the same. Music blared and hundreds of cars pulled in to get a view of the stage. When all the votes had been counted, the crowd cheered and honked horns. There was something to celebrate.

☑ ZACHARY GROZ '24

Grand strategy director resigns over donor involvement

For a course enrolling only about 20 to 25 students a year, Yale's Brady-Johnson Program in Grand Strategy has a big reputation. Founded in 2000 to train future leaders in big-picture thinking, the year-long course has attracted media attention and such high-profile guest lecturers as Henry Kissinger, James Comey, Samantha Power '92, and David Petraeus. So when the program's director, history professor Beverly Gage '94, resigned over what she considered interference by a donor, it was front-page news in the *New York Times*.

As Gage tells it, the events that resulted in her resignation began in November 2020, when Yale political science professor Bryan Garsten, who teaches in Grand Strategy, published an op-ed in the *Times* that was strongly critical of President-elect Donald Trump. Nicholas Brady '52, who with Charles Johnson '54 gave \$17.5 million to endow the program in 2006, wrote in an email to Grand Strategy lecturer Charles Hill that the essay was "not what Charlie Johnson and I signed up for," the *Times* reported in its article on Gage's resignation. (Brady and Johnson declined to comment for this article.)

Gage says Brady began to ask questions about the way the program was being taught, and eventually invoked a clause in the 2006 donor agreement that called for a "board of visitors," a five-person panel of outsiders that would weigh in on appointments. The board had never been created, but the university soon moved to do so. The final straw, Gage says, was when Yale accepted Johnson's list of names—including Kissinger's—for appointment to the board. Gage then told Yale she would leave her post as director at the end of 2021. (She remains at Yale as a history professor.) Associate director Michael Brenes was to become interim director in January.

The donors' concerns, Gage says, were "kind of vague," but were a combination of "methodological, ideological, and political." Since taking over as director in 2016, Gage says, she had made some adjustments. "The major intellectual change was to expand from great-power foreign policy issues to also think about domestic policies and social movements," she says. Defending the program's continued quality, she notes that, in the same month that Brady first raised his concerns, three students in the program were named Rhodes Scholars, and one of its guest practitioners, Jake Sullivan '98, '03JD, was appointed national security adviser.

On October 1, the day the *Times* story appeared in print, President Peter Salovey '86PhD released

a statement, saying he was "genuinely sorry that [Gage] did experience more unsolicited input from donors than faculty members should reasonably be expected to accept." Salovey acknowledged that "we must take care to ensure that gifts we receive do not infringe on the academic freedom of our faculty."

That same day, the history department issued a statement supporting Gage and asking for "explicit reassurance that the university administration will protect the academic freedom of all faculty



members and the integrity of all departments, programs, centers, and institutes on our campus." And on October 17, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Senate unanimously passed a resolution calling on

The president apologizes, and the Faculty Senate calls for reforms.

the university to establish a committee to examine existing gift agreements and to "recommend gift agreement policies that protect academic freedom."

FAS Senate president Valerie Horsley notes that some universities have specific gift policies that make the limits clear. "Our preference is to make the policy more transparent," says Horsley.

Y MARK ALDEN BRANCH '86



Beverly Gage '94 (above) resigned as director of the grand strategy program, housed in Allwin Hall (top) on Hillhouse Avenue.

MARK ALDEN BRANCH '86

MICHAEL MARSLAND

University will pay more to New Haven

Responding to a growing demand from New Haven officials and activists to increase its annual voluntary financial contribution to its home city, Yale announced in November that it will raise its payments, from a total of \$83.4 million over the

financially squeezed and loath to raise property taxes even further on residents—and as Yale’s endowment grew prodigiously—Yale’s unions and city officials pressured the university to do more. In his first successful election campaign, in 2019, Mayor Justin Elicker ’10MEM, ’10MBA, argued that Yale should pay the city \$50 million a year.

The deal announced in November falls far short of that number, but the additional money, combined with the increased reimbursement from the state, more than covers a projected city budget shortfall that Elicker had called on Yale and the state to fill. Yale will pay New Haven an additional \$10 million per year for the next five years, then \$2 million in the sixth year.

“When you put it in perspective, Yale will be contributing more in the next 6 years than in the past 20,” says Elicker. “That is a very significant step forward in the dynamic between the university and the city.”

The university also agreed to a plan that will ease the shock to the city budget when Yale buys property and removes it from the tax rolls. In the future, the university will pay 100 percent of the tax on such properties for the first three years after purchase, then a percentage of the tax that decreases to zero after nine more years.

In addition, Yale has committed \$5 million to fund a new Center for Inclusive Growth at the

A new agreement puts an extra \$52 million in the city’s coffers.

university in order to “develop and implement strategies to grow the city economically in a way that benefits all of New Haven’s residents.” School of Management dean Kerwin Charles will help launch the center.

Alongside the revenue deals, Yale and the city announced an agreement to close High Street to vehicular traffic between Chapel and Elm Streets, turning it into a bicycle and pedestrian path. Yale has already converted two other blocks of High Street and two blocks of Wall Street to pedestrian use; it purchased those streets from the city in 2013. In this case, Yale will fund the conversion and maintenance of the street, but the street will remain city property. **Y** MARK ALDEN BRANCH ’86



The block of **High Street** between Chapel and Elm will be closed to vehicular traffic as part of a new agreement between the university and the city of New Haven.

next six years to a total of \$135.4 million.

“Yale loves New Haven,” said President Peter Salovey ’86PhD at a City Hall event announcing the deal. “The new commitments we make today are informed by decades of engagement and service offered by members of the Yale community, and they are given purpose, shape, and energy by the good people of our wonderful city.”

Yale’s contribution to New Haven has been a bone of contention with the city for decades, primarily because of Connecticut’s tax structure. Cities and towns rely on property taxes for most of their revenue; this hurts cities like New Haven, where 60 percent of property is tax-exempt (much of it Yale’s). A state program reimburses cities partially for the lost taxes, but it frequently has been underfunded. This year, the state changed the formula, allotting New Haven \$90 million instead of the \$41 million it would have received under the old formula—another big win for the city budget.

Yale first began making voluntary payments to the city in 1990. The formula has changed over the years, and the amount has increased: in 2021 the university is paying \$13 million, which Yale says is more than any other US university pays its host city.

But as New Haven found itself increasingly

BOB HANDELMAN

Campus Clips

A BOMB THREAT on November 5 caused Yale to evacuate several campus buildings, including four residential colleges, three Old Campus dormitories, Bass Library, the University Theatre, and the Art Gallery. The Yale Police gave the all-clear after five hours, saying there was no validity to the threat. No arrests have been made. Stanford, Columbia, Brown, and Cornell also had bomb threats on the same weekend.

UNDERGRADUATES ON FINANCIAL AID will not be expected to contribute as much to the cost of a Yale education under a new formula announced in October. The “student share”—the amount students are expected to pay, through a job or other means—has been reduced to \$3,700 per year—a 34 percent reduction for most aid recipients. That figure represents the cost of books and personal expenses; the rest of the cost, including tuition, housing, meals, and travel, will be covered by university grants and parental contributions according to a need-based formula.



JOE EPSTEIN

MEN'S GOLF TEAMS from Yale and Columbia (above) got together in October to celebrate a milestone: the 125th anniversary of the first inter-collegiate golf match, which featured the same two teams in 1896. The Bulldogs and Lions met for an unofficial match at Saint Andrew's Golf Club in New York. Although Yale was a decisive winner (35-0) in 1896, Columbia got its revenge in the rematch, 15-2.

THE BELOVED LINONIA AND BROTHERS Room at Sterling Memorial Library is slated for a renovation next year. But calm down—those green leather armchairs and sofas aren't going anywhere. In addition to a general sprucing up and improvements to lighting and ventilation, the original parquet floor will be uncovered, and a wall separating L&B from its anteroom will be removed. “Our aim for this project is to improve the space while maintaining its traditional character and charm,” says university librarian Barbara Rockenbach.

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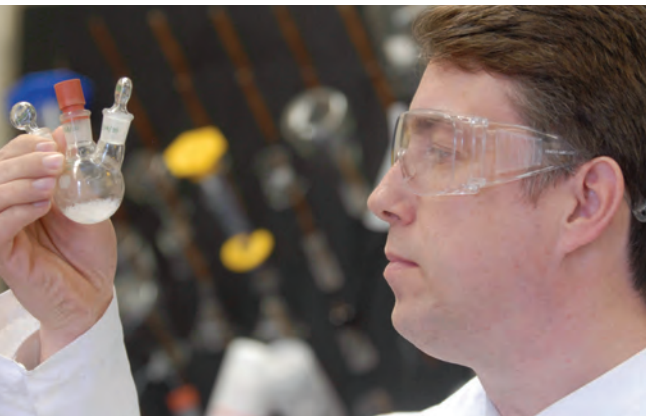
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Turning chemistry green

In 1990, Paul Anastas looked up from his work in the Office of Toxic Substances at the Environmental Protection Agency and noted a baffling absence.

Chemists were central in the description and measurement of environmental problems. They often worked to explain how much pollution filled the air over one city or another, or how many chemicals dirtied this waterway or that one. “But there wasn’t much involvement of chemists on the solutions side of things,” he says. “I used to say: who has more influence over a book’s outcome



Paul Anastas, who heads Yale’s Center for Green Chemistry and Green Engineering, recently won the Volvo Environmental Prize for his pioneering work.

than the author? Who has more impact on a building than the architect? And who has the most to do with chemistry and chemicals if not the molecular architects that design and build them?”

So Anastas, now director of Yale’s Center for Green Chemistry and Green Engineering, launched a “ridiculously small” division within the EPA where chemists engaged environmental problems not by regulating them, but by designing them out of existence. Thirty years later, he has been awarded the 2021 Volvo Environment Prize, an award of 1.5 million kroner (about \$160,000) given by the Swedish automaker for research in sustainability. The prize recognizes the transformative effect of his

work in every corner of the economy.

“I don’t feel this prize recognizes me as an individual, but everyone in green chemistry, all of the people who have been redesigning tomorrow to be more sustainable,” he says. “The prize is really

A prize honors 30 years of work for sustainability.

about the global community.”

Fundamental to green chemistry—a term Anastas coined while at the EPA—is recognizing that the design and use of molecules takes place within an immensely complex ecological system. The best approach to molecular design, then, eliminates, or at least reduces, the total production of hazardous substances by taking this system into account. Green chemistry, like the field of sustainability writ large, aims to solve problems without creating other problems that will later need to be solved.

In December 2020, the EPA celebrated its 50th anniversary. Anastas marked the occasion by writing an article praising the remarkable successes of his former employer while critiquing its current structure, which remains focused on managing problems rather than generating solutions. “In some ways, it was scathing, but it starts off with profuse praise, and both are true,” he says. “The past has been miraculous and the future has to be different.”

Y DYLAN WALSH '11MEM

MICHAEL MARSLAND

Appointed

ERIC WINER '78, '83MD (left), has been selected as the new director of the Yale Cancer Center and physician-in-chief of the Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale New Haven Hospital, effective February 1. **An expert on breast cancer**, Winer is currently a vice president of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and a professor at Harvard Medical School.



Honored

Four Yale seniors have been selected as 2022 **Rhodes Scholars** for study at the University of Oxford. **LIAM ELKIND** '22 of New York City, **MARY ORSAK** '22 of Dallas, and **SHREEYA SINGH** '22 of Pembroke Pines, Florida, are winners of US scholarships; **KATE PUNDYK** '22 of Crowsnest Pass, Alberta, is a Canadian winner.

Stepping down

STEN VERMUND will step down as dean of the School of Public Health at the end of his term on June 30. Vermund, who is also the Anna M. R. Lauder Professor of Public Health, will stay at Yale as a full-time faculty member. “For the past five years, even during a global health crisis, Sten has **worked intently to enhance the academic environment of the school** for faculty, students, and staff,” President Peter Salovey '86PhD said in a statement.

JOHN BOLLIER, vice president for facilities and campus development since 2018, is retiring on January 14 after nearly 30 years at Yale. A licensed architect, Bollier has overseen **billions of dollars' worth of capital projects on campus**. In announcing Bollier’s retirement, President Salovey wrote that “our campus is more vibrant, sustainable, and connected thanks to his leadership.”

YALE UNIVERSITY

A life transformed by mambo

Robert Farris Thompson '55, '65PhD, looked very much like someone who went to Andover and Yale in the 1950s, which he was: Brooks Brothers shirt, patchwork madras shorts, penny loafers. How unlikely is it that this paradigmatic white Anglo-Saxon Protestant changed the Western world's understanding of African culture? As unlikely, perhaps, as a Yale residential college adopting a Yoruba word—"Ashè," which means "make it happen"—as a rallying cry.

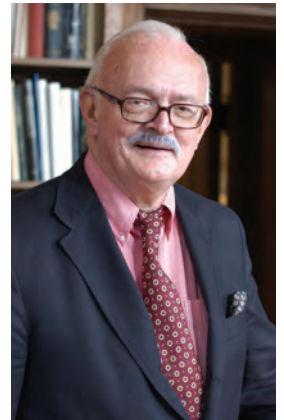
Thompson, who died on November 29 at age 88, was the former Colonel John Trumbull Professor of the History of Art at Yale and a professor emeritus of African American studies. To the world of art, he was a pioneering scholar who examined on their own terms the cultural products of the "Black Atlantic"—a term he coined to refer to the African continent and its American diaspora. Thompson was noted for describing the philosophy of a culture whose ideals and tenets were expressed in art, music, and dance more than in text. Another of his themes was how the Black Atlantic aesthetic had permeated American culture. "We can't know how American we are unless we know how black we are," he told Cathy Shufro for a profile in this magazine in 2010.

To Yale students, he was the infectiously enthusiastic teacher of such courses as New York Mambo, as well as the inspiring master of Timothy Dwight College from 1978 to 2010—longer than any other head of college at Yale. He brought to campus such famous guests as David Byrne, Keith Haring, and Tito Puente.


Thompson told his origin story as if it were that of Spider-Man: a native of El Paso, Texas, he went

on a vacation to Mexico City in 1950 with his family. In a hotel dining room, he heard mambo music for the first time. "Mambo irradiated me with classical Afro-Atlantic music, and there was no turning back," he told Shufro.

His journey led him, as a student, to seek out mambo in New York clubs like the Palladium; then later to Africa, where he did field work in Yoruba culture as a graduate student in art history; then throughout Africa and the Americas in a six-decade pursuit of Black Atlantic scholarship. He began teaching at Yale in 1964 and earned his PhD in 1965. Last May, Yale conferred a fourth degree on Thompson: an honorary doctor of humanities.



Robert Farris Thompson changed the Western world's understanding of African culture.


Frederick John Lamp '82PhD, curator of African art at the Yale University Art Gallery and a former student, wrote that Thompson once told him the secret to his success: "I am shameless." Lamp says it showed, because "he didn't have a dancer's body, but he never let that stop him from going full-out to learn every tango and mambo dance step, every multimeter rhythm, every chant and praise song that he could. He didn't care if you liked it. He liked it, and that was abundantly obvious as he reveled in all that he did."  MARK ALDEN BRANCH '86

Frances Rosenbluth dies at 63

Frances McCall Rosenbluth, the Damon Wells Professor of Political Science, died from cancer on November 20 at the age of 63. The daughter of missionaries, she was born in Osaka and later made Japan the subject of her scholarship in comparative politics. She also studied gender inequality, cowriting an influential book called *Women, Work, and Politics: The Comparative Political Economy of Gender Inequality*.

More recently, with her longtime partner, Sterling Professor of Political Science Ian Shapiro, she wrote *Responsible Parties: Saving Democracy from Itself*, a look at voter alienation in democracies.

Rosenbluth came to Yale in 1994. She would become the first woman to chair the political science department.

In addition to her respected scholarship, Rosenbluth was known to students as a teacher and a mentor. She won both the DeVane and Hixon teaching prizes, and her recent course, *Sex, Markets, and Power*, was capped at 460 students—the most that could fit in the Law School Auditorium. Political science chair Gregory Huber described her as "a force of nature who was a ceaseless advocate for her students, peers, and the larger Yale and scholarly communities." 



where they are now

Baseball and philosophy

Ryan Lavarney '09 had an excellent reason to leave New Haven after his junior year in 2008. The philosophy major had gotten a job offer he couldn't refuse: the Boston Red Sox offered him \$325,000 to sign a contract in June 2008 and report to work ASAP. He'd torn up the Ivies the two previous springs, posting the highest batting average in the NCAA (Division 1) in his sophomore year, and he led the Ivies in home runs and RBIs in 2008. Lavarney's subsequent rise through the minor-league ranks (Lowell, MA; Greenville, SC; Salem, VA; Portland, ME; Peoria, AZ, Pawtucket, RI) was steady and award-studded. And he had a dream-like debut in the majors in 2011, hitting two home runs in his first start as catcher with Boston.

But pro sports can be a fickle calling. In the ensuing decade, Lavarney played for eight different Major League Baseball teams and their minor-league affiliates. When we talked in September, he had just been called up from the Triple-A Columbus Clippers by the Cleveland Indians. (In his first game with Cleveland, he hit a double.) Cynical scribes might describe Lavarney as a "journeyman." But if so, it's been the kind of journey every kid who ever wore a glove would envy. And at 34, he's still at it, and loving every step on the way.

PETER RICHMOND: How did you choose your major at Yale?

RYAN LAVARNEY: I majored in philosophy because they told us to study what we were passionate about. Philosophy was my passion—the idea of trying to find an answer to questions, things that didn't have simple answers.

PR: You're one semester away from the degree. You're determined to finish it?

RL: It was a promise I made to myself: finish what I've started.

PR: What was it about the Yale baseball experience that prepared you for the pros?

RL: The biggest thing for me was learning how to focus on what you're doing right now, on where your feet are *right now*. When I was writing a paper, I couldn't be worried about a 3–2 curveball. When I was in the field, I wasn't worried about a paper that was due. In the heart of the moment in a big game, it's a very good skill to have. You have to separate what you're doing from the other aspects of your life.

PR: Greatest career memories?

RL: I've had a few pretty memorable highlights. The first two homers in game one in Boston. Winning with them in 2013. My performance with the Israeli team in the [2017] World Baseball Championships. [Ranked 41st, Israel beat third-ranked South Korea and fifth-ranked Taiwan in the qualifying round.] Being released by the Yankees and signing with Cincinnati a few hours later—

PR: —where, that next night, you had three hits—two of them home runs—and six RBIs: the first time any Red had done that since Johnny Bench in 1973.

RL: We moved the whole apartment into the back of the car and drove eight hours from Scranton to Cincinnati.

PR: So what is it about playing this game that you love? The closeness of a clubhouse? Being a member of a special tribe?

"It always has to be a challenge. If it were easy, it wouldn't be fun."

RL: I think there's just something about playing a game where every day is a new challenge. You can't rest on yesterday. It always has to be a challenge. If it were easy, it wouldn't be fun. It's all about the satisfaction of overcoming challenges.

PR: Such as?

RL: Some of my more serious roommates and their parents didn't see sports as a legitimate career path.

PR: Your 33 home runs is a Yale record, even without playing a final season. How does one exactly hit a home run?

RL: First, hit the ball. I personally don't try to hit them out. If it goes out, it's a happy accident.

PR: The best major-league managers are often players who've spent considerable time in the minor leagues. Are you thinking of a future in managing?

RL: I still enjoy playing. I have a lot of playing time left in me. I'll worry about what comes next when it becomes now. **Y**

There's philosophy. And then there's baseball. Which of those skills would you choose? **Ryan Lavarney '09** is onto them both.

Peter Richmond '76 is a *New York Times* bestselling author and lifetime sports scribe. The interview has been condensed and edited.



A voice against slavery

By Judith Ann Schiff

“We would say to all the friends of justice: remit no vigilance, slacken no effort, suspend no prayer, pass by no means that can aid in procuring justice, leave no stone unturned to save our country from the fearful degradation and guilt of shedding the blood of these unhappy men—and then hope for the best, and trust in God.”

These words, published in the pages of the antislavery newspaper *The Emancipator* on January 14, 1841, were a rallying cry on behalf of the mutineers from the slave ship *Amistad* who had been brought to New Haven in 1839, and whose case was about to be heard by the United States Supreme Court. They were written by Joshua Leavitt (1794–1873), who graduated from Yale College in 1814. Leavitt was one of the most prominent Yale and New Haven men who took leading roles in the abolition and antislavery movement, following several career paths in his lifetime dedication to the cause.

A native of Massachusetts, Leavitt entered Yale as a sophomore. After he graduated, he was awarded a Berkeley scholarship for informal graduate study at Yale. Then, after studying law at home, Leavitt was admitted to the bar in Northampton in 1819. In 1823, he returned to New Haven and enrolled in the first class in the newly organized Divinity School.

In 1825, Leavitt was installed as pastor of the congregational church in Stratford, Connecticut. He soon joined the new temperance movement and added to his duties those of agent of the American Temperance Society and the Seamen’s Friend Society in New York. Dismissed from his pastorate in 1828, Leavitt then took charge of the *Sailor’s Magazine* and thereafter worked primarily as an editor.

In 1831 Leavitt became the editor and proprietor of the New York *Evangelist*, a new organ devoted to liberal religious movements. When he lost ownership of the paper in the financial crisis of 1837, he was happy to be appointed editor of the weekly *Emancipator*, which was the official newspaper

of the American Anti-Slavery Society. The society had been founded four years earlier by William Lloyd Garrison and Arthur Tappan (a sometime New Haven resident who is buried in Grove Street Cemetery).

It was while Leavitt was editing the *Emancipator* that the *Amistad* case became a focal point for abolitionists. The story of how Joseph Cinqué and 52 other captives seized the ship that was transporting them into slavery, then were turned over to US authorities after running aground on Long Island, is a familiar one, memorialized in books, monuments, and in the 1997 Steven Spielberg film *Amistad*.

Because the captives were brought to the nearest US Marshall in New Haven, Yale and New Haven people became actively involved in their care and defense. New Haven attorney Roger Sherman Baldwin ’11 represented them in court. Divinity professor Josiah Willard Gibbs ’09 found a translator by searching the wharves of New York. Another divinity professor, George E. Day ’33, and his divinity students taught the Africans English and Christianity, as did local minister and abolitionist Leonard Bacon ’20.

For his part, Leavitt founded the *Amistad* Committee, mainly as a fund-raising effort, along with Simeon Jocelyn, a white former Yale divinity student who led a Black congregation in New Haven (and who had tried a few years earlier to start a Black college in the city—see page 46), and Lewis Tappan, a New York abolitionist and brother of Arthur Tappan.

In January 1840, at the district court in New Haven, Judge Andrew Judson declared that the



Joshua Leavitt, Class of 1814, sat for this portrait in the studio of Mathew B. Brady around 1860.

Abolitionist editor and Yale graduate Joshua Leavitt aided the *Amistad* captives.

Africans were innocent and should be returned to Africa. President Van Buren thought otherwise, favoring the Spanish claim that the captives were legal Cuban slaves and directing the US attorney for Connecticut to appeal the case to the Supreme Court.

JUDITH ANN SCHIFF is chief research archivist at the Yale University Library.

In late February 1841, the *Amistad* case opened with former President John Quincy Adams heading the defense team. The attendees in the crowded courtroom included Francis Scott Key. On March 9, the Supreme Court ruled that the Africans were not legal slaves and had killed in self-defense. “It was the only instance in history where American Blacks, seized by slave dealers, won their freedom and returned home,” writes Howard Jones in his 1987 history *Mutiny on the Amistad*.

“Remit no vigilance, slacken no effort, suspend no prayer.”

Two days after the decision, the *Amistad* Committee published a notice “to the Friends of the African Captives,” proudly proclaiming:

The committee have the high satisfaction of announcing that the Supreme Court of the United States have definitely decided that the long-imprisoned captives who were taken in the

Amistad, ARE FREE, on this soil, without condition or restraint. . . . In view of this great deliverance, in which the lives and liberties of thirty-six fellow-men are secured, as well as many fundamental principles of law, justice, and human rights established, the committee respectfully request that public thanks be given on the occasion to Almighty God in all the churches throughout the land.

The *Amistad* Committee continued work to fund their journey home. In November 1841 the 35 surviving Africans departed from New York aboard the barque *Gentleman* for their voyage back to Africa.

Leavitt’s own beliefs varied according to the times: he had at different times advocated gradual emancipation, recolonization, and abolition. Often at variance with the uncompromising Garrison and his sympathizers, he moved from New York to Boston in 1842. In 1848 he became office editor of the *Independent*, continuing in a lesser position when he reached 70. He died in 1873, leaving among his survivors a son, William Solomon Leavitt ’40, ’43MA, who served as pastor in churches in Massachusetts and New York. ☐

Below: some of the sketches of the *Amistad* captives made by New Haven resident William H. Townsend during their detention in the city. Joshua Leavitt was among the three members of a committee that raised money for their defense and return to Africa.



BEINECKE RARE BOOK AND MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY

scene on campus



King of the castle

PHOTOGRAPH BY BOB HANDELMAN

Handsome Dan has *arrived*. “He’s a big fan of his new doghouse,” says his handler, Cassandra Haro ’18, a program administrator in Yale’s Visitor Center. Dan accompanies her there when she’s at work. And who wouldn’t enjoy lounging outside in a palace?

The bone-themed shelter was designed and built by Shelby Wright ’21MARCH and Christine Song ’21MARCH, winners of a doghouse design competition at the School of Architecture. In the spirit of Yale’s love of heraldry, Wright and Song designed a shield—featuring a bone and pawprints—to decorate the entrance.

One caveat: although Dan loves hanging out on his rooftop, he needs a little coaxing before he’ll pose for the camera. Fortunately, a dab of Ben & Jerry’s peanut butter-and-pretzel ice cream always brings out his regal side.



president's letter

Fostering opportunity



The *Yale Alumni Magazine* publishes a letter from **President Peter Salovey '86PhD** in every issue. In this letter, the president discusses the recent decision to increase Yale's voluntary payments to the City of New Haven.

Since we first met as graduate students at Yale, my wife Marta and I have made New Haven our home. Over the past four decades, we have seen the city change and grow in wonderful ways. One constant is that the Elm City has always been a vital part of what makes Yale an exciting place to live, work, and study.

That is why, as a longtime resident, I am especially proud to share new initiatives that will foster opportunity and further strengthen Yale's enduring partnership with New Haven. The principal elements of the plan, which I announced with Mayor Justin Elicker '10MEM/MBA, include a significant increase in the university's annual voluntary financial contribution to New Haven and a collaboration to help generate inclusive economic growth.

Yale's partnership with New Haven is unique in the United States. We have long made the largest annual voluntary contribution of any college or university to its home city in the country. By increasing our contribution by \$52 million over six years, we are making a statement about our support today and into the future. When combined with Yale's existing voluntary payments, Yale will contribute approximately \$135 million to the city over a six-year period.

The university also announced a new commitment to offset—fully, in the initial years—the loss in tax revenues for any properties Yale takes off the tax rolls in the next six years. These properties advance Yale's teaching and research missions, create jobs, and fuel entrepreneurship. Through this innovative approach, we will support Yale's strategic growth—a long-term benefit to the city—while ensuring New Haven does not lose out on tax revenue in the short term. The timing of this action is noteworthy. When combined with larger contributions from the State of Connecticut through the recently restructured Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) program, increased federal funding, and new investment from the private sector, Yale's enhanced support will make a real difference in the lives of New Haven residents, today and for years to come.

America's cities face a host of challenges, many of which were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to financial support, Yale can help develop creative, evidence-based solutions to these problems. The new Center for Inclusive Growth, established with \$5 million in Yale funding, will research and implement strategies in collaboration with city officials for growing the city's economy to the benefit of all New Haven residents. I have asked Kerwin Charles, the Indra K. Nooyi Dean and Frederic D. Wolfe Professor of Economics, Policy, and Man-

agement at the Yale School of Management, to help launch this effort, supported by an advisory committee of university, city, and community leaders. By bringing Yale's scholarly strengths to bear on issues at our front door, the Center for Inclusive Growth will demonstrate the power of our partnership with the city in action.

Over the years, artistic, cultural, and dining destinations have emerged across the city, generating economic growth and inviting more people to discover our city. I am delighted that another component of our plan includes creating a new public space where our community can gather. By converting High Street between Chapel and Elm Streets into a pedestrian walkway free of vehicular access, we will help foster an attractive public space near the Yale University Art Gallery, the Yale Center for British Art, and other iconic Yale landmarks. While the city owns the street, Yale will develop a design for this space and fund its renovation. The new High Street pedestrian thoroughfare will be a place for residents from across the city—and visitors and Yale alumni from around the world—to enjoy.

These new initiatives represent a major step forward in Yale's commitment to New Haven, in addition to our ongoing investment in the city. Existing programs include the Yale University Homebuyer Program, which strengthens neighborhoods by helping employees purchase homes in New Haven, and New Haven Works, which connects qualified residents to good job opportunities. Enrichment programs like Yale Pathways to Science and New Haven Promise, a scholarship program for the city's public school students to attend any university in Connecticut, present invaluable opportunities for local young people. These existing initiatives, along with many others, represent more than \$100 million in support over the next six years, in addition to \$140 million in new funding just announced.

We stand at an historic moment for Yale and New Haven. I am confident Yale can serve as a national model—exemplifying how institutions of higher education can partner with their home cities to serve the greater good. Marta and I join with our neighbors as we look forward to helping write the next chapter in our shared history.

With my warmest wishes,

Peter Salovey '86PhD
President
Chris Argyris Professor of Psychology

MARK OSTROW

CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE FALL 2021 ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

On behalf of everyone at the Yale Alumni Association, the Yale Alumni Fund, and the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, and with profound gratitude for all that you have done and continue to do, congratulations to the award recipients honored during the fall semester.

YALE MEDAL

Ralph C. Dawson '71
Thomas S. Leatherbury '76, '79 JD
Neil A. Mazzella '78 MFA
Kevin P. Nelson '92 MPH
Lise Strickler '82

YAA BOARD OF GOVERNORS EXCELLENCE AWARDS

1stGenYale
Cincinnati Yale Club
Yale Alumni Nonprofit Alliance
(YANA)
Yale Alumni Service Corps
Advisory Board
Yale Club of Hong Kong
Yale Club of Washington, D.C.
Yale College Class of 1971
Yale College Class of 1988
Yale College Class of 1993
Yale College Class of 1998
Yale College Class of 1994
Yale College Class of 2007
Yale in Hollywood
Yale School of the Environment
Alumni Association Board
Yale Science and Engineering
Association

YALE-JEFFERSON AWARDS FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

Nicky Brussel Faria '21
Paola V. Figueroa-Delgado '24 PhD
Margaret Flinter '80 MSN

YAA LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Joe English '17
Jeff Juger '11 MBA
Nik Khakee '96 MPPM
Jennifer Ebisemiju Madar '88
Julien Mininberg '86, '90 MBA
Yvette Soliz Rivers '96

YALE ALUMNI FUND CHAIR'S AWARDS

Richard Albert '00, '03 JD
M. Kemal Ciliz '95
Romy Drucker '07
Henry Fernaine '99
Neeta Ogden '94
Andrew Sipes '85

ALUMNI SCHOOLS COMMITTEE AMBASSADOR AWARDS

Tony Leung '82
Sumner McCallie '92

ALUMNI SCHOOLS COMMITTEE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

New Canaan Alumni Schools
Committee (Dan Ward '55)

Not muses, but musicians



In her new book *Liner Notes*, Daphne Brooks revisits the place of Black women in music history. (Clockwise from top left: Janelle Monáe, Pauline Hopkins, Cécile McLorin Salvant, and Zora Neale Hurston.)

For decades, music critics have tended to marginalize and undervalue the musicianship of Black women. Now Daphne A. Brooks, a professor of music and African American studies, has proved those critics wrong. Her latest book, *Liner Notes for the Revolution* (Harvard), is a radical rewrite of twentieth- and twenty-first-century music history.

Liner Notes recovers the voices of Black women as theorists of sound. (The title references the explanatory texts on record albums and CD booklets.) Starting from what she considers the

first instance of Black feminist music criticism—in Pauline Hopkins’s 1903 novel *Of One Blood*—and moving all the way up to Beyoncé’s seminal visual album *Lemonade* (2016), Brooks tells “a twofold story of how an array of daring Black women artists engaged with historical memory and fragments of Black folks’ sociocultural past through sound, and of how these same artists innovated their own distinct and innovative modes of critical practice *within* Black sound.”

To tell this story, Brooks brings together counter-culture feminist music criticism of the 1960s and ’70s and the long tradition of Black studies scholarship. She highlights the work of Cynthia Dagnal-Myron, Lorraine O’Grady, and Phyl Garland, whose groundbreaking music criticism and coverage of

Brooks seeks to understand their sound in the context of their personal and political lives: “How did it feel? What did they want?”

early performances by artists such as Bruce Springsteen and Bob Marley is rarely remembered as central to the field. Brooks also calls attention to other Black women who were writing about music: for instance, she foregrounds Zora Neale Hurston’s years traveling the country as a singer and ethnographer.

With the critical tools gleaned from these intellectuals, Brooks takes a deep dive into the personal archives of a number of musicians, seeking to understand their sound in the context of their personal and political lives: “How did it feel? What did they want? Why did they go, rather than where?” She applies this approach, for example, to the career of a little-known Depression-era blues duo, Geeshie Wiley and L. V. (“Elvie”) Thomas, recovering the intentions behind their sound.

Proceeding through the book, a reader begins to feel that *Liner Notes* is something more than a study of artists and critics. Brooks seems to agree. “Above all else,” she writes, “I take seriously the centrality of sound in Black women’s lives as a foundation for developing and sustaining pivotal, profoundly meaningful world-making sociocultural networks and forms of intimacy with one another.”

Y CHANDLER ABSHIRE CALDERON '22PHD

COLLAGE: JEANINE DUNN. IMAGES: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS.

Temper they can't control


We all experience bursts of frustration when things don't go as planned. For some children, these inevitable hiccups in daily life trigger extreme irritability, the I-can't-calm-down temper tantrums that can lead to lashing out at friends or inflicting pain on themselves. For years, neuroscientists suspected this kind of extreme irritability was tied to altered brain wiring, primarily in the amygdala (the brain's emotional center) and prefrontal cortex (the emotional regulation center). The brain's alarm system sounds, but the off switch is faulty.

Now, a Yale Child Study Center investigation provides a more nuanced view of how these kids' brains may be affected. The new study, published in *Molecular Psychiatry*, examines the brain's "connectome"—all its neural connections—to explore the complicated way the brain transmits messages.

The team examined brain scans of 129 children between the ages of 8 and 16; 100 had been referred to Yale due to aggressive behavior. The rest had no history of aggression and served as controls. The children had played a game inside an fMRI imaging machine, where they were shown either calm or fearful photos

of faces. (An fMRI spotlights areas where oxygen was used, which is a measure of brain activity.) Research scientist Karim Ibrahim led the investigation; the data was gleaned from a previous study by senior author Denis Sukhodolsky, an associate professor.

"The results," says Ibrahim, "suggest a broader network dysfunction," beyond the amygdala and prefrontal cortex. The scans showed that four neural networks are linked to the behavioral problems. One, involved in cognitive functioning, is located in the prefrontal cortex behind the forehead. Another is deep in the brain, and when the mind is wandering—in "default mode"—it's involved in social perception. The third, involved in movement and perception, is found in the sensory motor networks that stretch across the midsection of the brain like a headband.

Sukhodolsky says the findings are an important first step that may pave a way to define these emotional issues more precisely, and in turn lead to more effective treatments. Or, as he put it, to treatments that may one day be based on "brain science rather than clinical observation."  RANDI HUTTER EPSTEIN '90MD

Pregnant? Maybe go easy on the acetaminophen

Acetaminophen is everywhere. First marketed in the US in the 1950s, it became an over-the-counter medication in 1960. The pain-relieving, fever-reducing compound has been more widely used than aspirin since the 1980s. It's now the active ingredient in over 600 medications.

But despite acetaminophen's overall reputation for safety, a team of 13 scientists, including epidemiologist Zeyan Liew of the School of Public Health, is advising pregnant women to use caution. They cite a growing body of research showing the drug might alter fetal development.

In a consensus statement published in the journal *Nature Reviews Endocrinology*, 91 researchers, clinicians, and public health experts from around the world supported findings that acetaminophen may be at least partially responsible for rising rates of male and female reproductive disorders; cognitive, learning, and behavioral problems in children.

Sixty-five percent of pregnant women report

ever having taken the drug, which is their most commonly used medication. "Public health researchers' radar is activated when something is so widely used and considered so safe," Liew says. Their recommendations mirror current

Take the lowest effective dose for the shortest possible time.

advice: forgo the drug unless a health care professional says it's medically indicated, and use the lowest effective dose for the shortest possible time. They also call for further study. "Evidence of neurodevelopmental toxicity of any type," the statement concludes, should "trigger prioritization and some level of action."

 RHEA HIRSHMAN

Noted

INDIGENOUS NATIONS across the US have lost 98.9 percent of their land base since European settlers first laid claim to the continent. A team led by environment school professor Justin Farrell found that that dispossession has made Native communities especially vulnerable to climate change. Indigenous peoples, forced out of their historical lands and onto lands with fewer natural resources, are more exposed to climate hazards: extreme heat, greater wildfire risks, and more. Farrell hopes the information can be used to right inequities, mitigate risks, and improve Indigenous peoples' lives.

BABIES, ESPECIALLY Black babies, who were born to socioeconomically disadvantaged mothers and exposed in the womb to contaminants from the Flint River often have low birth weights. The School of Public Health researchers who found the pattern say it's an effect of systemic racism, generated by public policies on housing, water sources, education, and more. Birth weights can predict life outcomes, such as school performance and salary level. The researchers will keep studying Flint-area birth weights to learn more about the long-term effects of water contamination and how to address the inequities.

THE WEATHER ON MARS, Yale researchers have found, has at least one similarity to that of Earth: dust storms on the red planet and nor'easters in New England recur about every 20 days. This information could aid future Mars missions. "Martian dust storms endanger robotic missions already," says Michael Battalio of the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences. Next, Battalio will try to forecast Martian weather during the upcoming dust-storm season.



A reckoning with our past

Yale examines its historical ties with slavery

Along with dozens of other schools, Yale has opened a long-closed door to a part of its past that had been hidden. In the following pages, you'll learn about that past, and you'll read some painful history.

As a start, however, we offer this contemporary artwork: *But Enough About You*, by Titus Kaphar '06MFA. It's a powerful rejoinder to a much older painting (reproduced on page 41), and to the many who caused terrible suffering.





But Enough About You (2016), by artist Titus Kaphar '06MFA, puts the focus on this unnamed Black boy, who was overlooked for centuries in a painting that prominently features Elihu Yale and members of his family. In that work, painted in the eighteenth century and held by the Yale Center for British Art, the boy—wearing a metal collar that he could not remove—is left in the shadows. In Kaphar's work, it's just possible to identify Yale in the crumpled canvas off to the side.

Introduction

My most indelible memory of Connecticut Hall is of sitting in the grass with a friend, our backs to the strong brick wall. We were only a few weeks into our first year at Yale. The Old Campus was green and beautiful. Tourists were strolling through, admiring it. One of them stopped to tell us how extremely lucky we were, to be living in such a place.

It was a seismic emotional shift to learn, late last October, that the brick wall I'd leaned against had been built in part by people who were enslaved. It had never come home to me that New Englanders, let alone my own college, could have endorsed and practiced slavery.

Over eighty colleges and universities have by now investigated or begun to investigate their history with slavery. Yale joined them in the fall of 2020, when President Peter Salovey '86PhD asked David Blight—Sterling Professor of History, African American History, and American Studies, and a Pulitzer Prize winner—to chair Yale's examination of its own past. The first meeting took place in mid-November. The research began in earnest early in 2021, gathering steam as more people joined: Yale staff, faculty, librarians, students, alums, members of the New Haven community, experts from other institutions. In all, over 75 people have participated so far.

Blight is the director of Yale's Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition (glc.yale.edu). Its mission: "the investigation and dissemination of knowledge concerning slavery and its legacies across all borders and all time." In late October, the GLC held a three-day online conference on the findings to date (tinyurl.com/YaleAndSlavery-GLC). All of the 15 pages you will find after this one were excerpted from just a few of the talks given in the conference. (As for myself, I watched almost all the discussions, transfixed. I can't recommend them enough.)

Blight especially credits the GLC staff who planned and executed the conference—Michelle Zacks, Melissa McGrath, and Daniel Vieira—and Michael Morand '87, '93MDiv, communications director at the Beinecke Library, who has been studying the history of

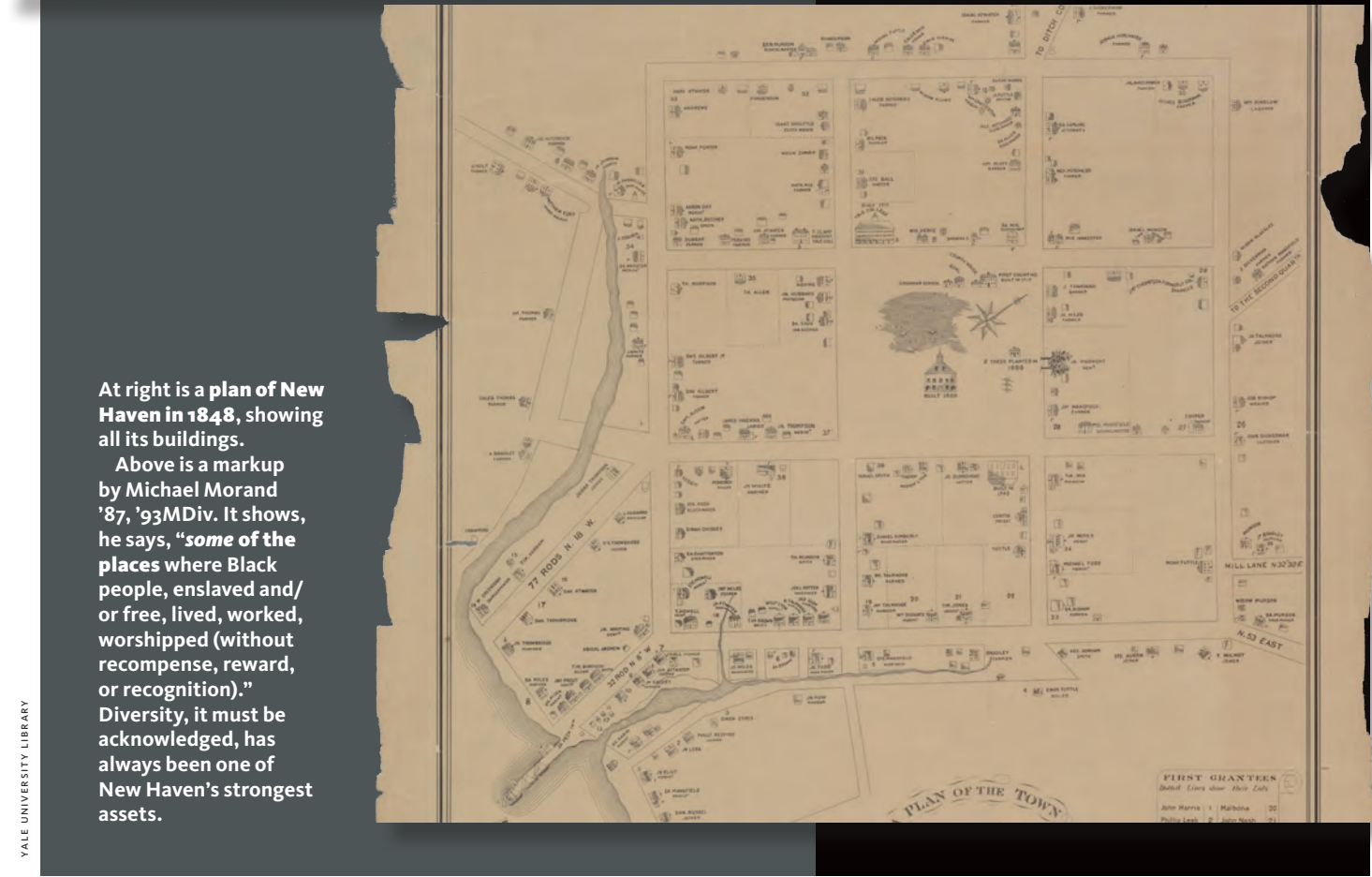
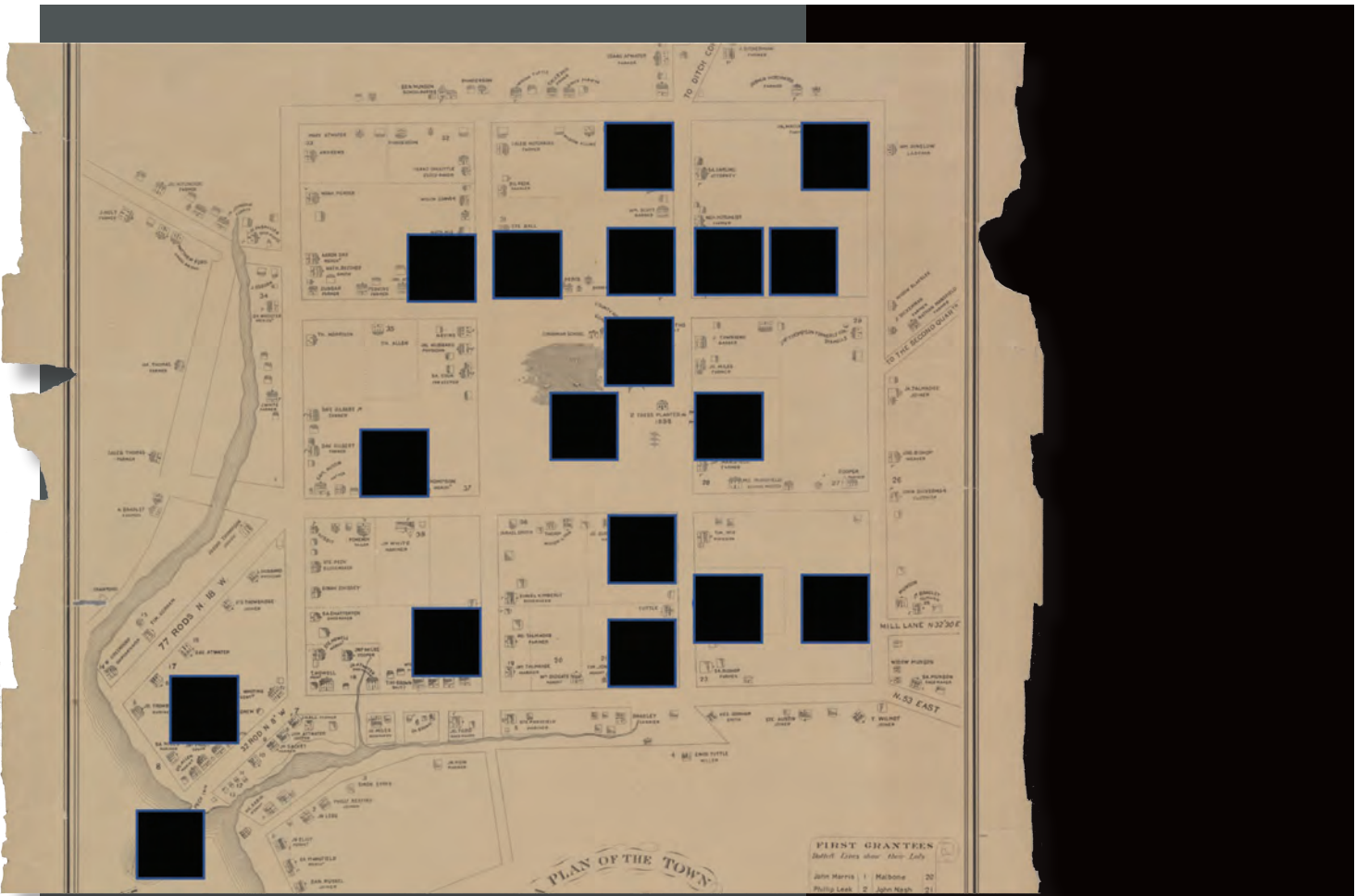
New Haven and Yale for years. And the work continues. The team will soon begin writing a book about their findings. In the meantime, the website yaleandslavery.yale.edu has a great deal of information.

The opening remarks were delivered by Salovey, who began by noting how long the historical problem of slavery had been hidden in the shadows. "So today," he said, "we're acknowledging that slavery and the slave trade are part of Yale's history. Our history." After Salovey's keynote, Blight held a discussion with poet and writer Elizabeth Alexander '84, head of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; and Jonathan Holloway '95PhD, former Yale professor and dean of Yale College, and now the president of Rutgers. "I admire institutions that are unafraid of their pasts," Holloway said.

At the conclusion of the conversation, Alexander read an excerpt from her epic poem about the *Amistad* captives. It centered on James Covey, a West African who had himself been captured but became a free man. When Yale professor Josiah Willard Gibbs Sr. went to the docks in 1839, looking for someone who knew the captives' language, he found Covey. In Alexander's poem, Covey remembered "an infinity of ships fatted / with Africans, men, women, children / as I was. Now it is my turn to rescue."

It's now Yale's turn to examine its past.

☐ KATHRIN DAY LASSILA '81, EDITOR



At right is a plan of New Haven in 1848, showing all its buildings.

Above is a markup by Michael Morand '87, '93M Div. It shows, he says, "some of the places where Black people, enslaved and/or free, lived, worked, worshipped (without recompense, reward, or recognition)." Diversity, it must be acknowledged, has always been one of New Haven's strongest assets.

ENSLAVED PEOPLE WORKED ON CONNECTICUT HALL

By Teanu Reid '23PhD

In many stories of early Yale, the work of building Connecticut Hall is credited to two men, Francis Letort and Thomas Bills. The records show that during the construction (1748 to 1752), Letort worked 165 days and Bills 114.75 days. However, in the papers of Yale College president Thomas Clap, we found that a substantial amount of the labor on Connecticut Hall was performed by Jethro and Gad Luke, a father-and-son pair, both free Black men. They worked a total of 191 and a half days, performing tasks such as making mortar.

But Clap's records also revealed that at least five enslaved men worked on the building. Their time was recorded: a total of 436 and one-half days. Other than one enslaved man called "Mingo," their names were not. They were listed by the names of their enslavers, with notes like "President's Negro" and "Mr. Noyes' Negro." Their hours, combined with those of Jethro and Gad Luke, represent about 27 percent of the labor that built Connecticut Hall, but these Black men have been ignored in previous histories of Yale.

From Clap's papers we turned to the university treasurer's records, and then to probate records, assembly records, newspapers—especially the *Connecticut Gazette*—and other primary documents to try to uncover the presence, names, and lives of the people who helped build Yale. This is a continuing process that requires cross-referencing names across those various documents to find as much information as possible from very tiny threads. So far, we've been able to identify most of the "Negroes" who worked on the building: Jack, enslaved to Joseph Noyes. Dick, enslaved to Theophilus Munson. George, enslaved to President Thomas Clap. And Mingo, enslaved to Arch. McNeil. We are still looking for the name of the man enslaved to a Mr. Bonticou.

We have also identified 16 slave owners who were paid for their contributions, such as building materials, toward the construction of Connecticut Hall. And we've found five slave owners who donated to the project. Clearly, there were multiple levels at which slavery was part of the building process for Connecticut Hall.

It isn't the only Yale project that benefited from slavery. In 1721, when the school moved to New Haven, it finished construction of two buildings: a rector's house and "a splendid collegiate house." In that year, the Connecticut Assembly directed taxes from West Indian rum go to the college. The rum was produced in the Caribbean by untold numbers

of enslaved Africans, whose lives were routinely endangered and lost during the brutal labor of harvesting and processing sugar cane into sugar, rum, and molasses.

Between 1700 and 1765, the college also took donations from several locals who profited from owning Black and indigenous people. Among them: Rev. Solomon Williams of Lebanon, Jared Ingersoll, Esq., of New Haven, Rev. Samuel Bird of New Haven, and Governor Gurdon Saltonstall. A number of Yale trustees, such as Joseph Noyes and Timothy Woodbridge, owned enslaved people. Even some Yale students owned slaves.

Slavery in the colony, and later the state, of Connecticut began with the enslavement of Native Americans and remained legal until 1848. The first generation of large-scale Native American slavery occurred in the 1600s. Native American slavery paved the way for African slavery, as New Englanders developed laws and practices that affected Africans and Indians alike. In the 1700s, the majority of slaves were Africans or of African descent. Enslaved Africans were purchased both from the coast of Africa and from British-controlled islands in the West Indies, where New England and Connecticut merchants had extensive partnerships. Slave owners in Connecticut generally had just a few slaves, but those enslaved people represented large proportions of their enslavers' wealth. Several of these enslavers were connected to the development of the college.

"They were listed by the names of their enslavers, with notes like 'President's Negro' and 'Mr. Noyes' Negro.'"

In numerous ways throughout the eighteenth century, slavery was a part of the building and development of Yale. Unequivocally, the history of slavery belongs in the history of Yale College. New records of that history, including all the ways free and enslaved people contributed to the institution, are essential for accurate accounts of the past. ■

TEANU REID '23PhD is a doctoral candidate in African American studies and history.

Facing: records of the construction of Connecticut Hall (1748–1752) kept by Yale president Thomas Clap list the days worked by enslaved people, including one person held by Clap himself.

Arch. McNeil his Labour, Oversight, and Disbursements	72 ⁺ 2
his Negro's Work 92 ³ / ₄ Days	92 ⁺ 15
President's Negro 83 Days Work	83 ⁺
Mr. Noyes's Negro 172 ³ / ₄ Days D ^o	172 ⁺ 15
Jethro's & Gad 161 ¹ / ₂ Days D ^o	161 ⁺ 10
Theophilus Munson's Negro 68 Days D ^o	68 ⁺
Mr. Boutwell's Negro 96 Days	96 ⁺
Niolas Wood 75 ¹ / ₂ Days	78 ⁺ 16 8
Isaac Sharp 6 Days	6 ⁺
Benj. Munson 25 ¹ / ₂ Days	29 ⁺ 16 ⁺
James Tuttle 35 Days	35 ⁺ 2
Danl. M. Connelly 10 Days	10 ⁺
Abel Wood 2 Days	2 10
Jno. Osborn 1 Day	1 ⁺
Rub. Cutter 27 Days	12 3
	<u>£921 9 8</u>

A CHILD, ENSLAVED

By Edward Town

While the group of children in the background of this painting are shown joyfully at play, another child in the foreground brings wine to the seated men. To judge from the painting, he is ten years old, probably about the same age as the boy in the background also wearing a grey coat and red stockings. Like many other depictions of people of African descent in British portraits of this period, the boy's identity has been largely ignored. The collar on his neck is of a type seen in at least 50 other paintings made in Britain between 1660 and 1760.

The painting, previously titled *Elihu Yale; William Cavendish, the second Duke of Devonshire; Lord James Cavendish; Mr. Tunstal; and an Enslaved Servant*, is in the collection of the Yale Center for British Art and now on display. Earlier this year, for the first time in its history, the painting was subject to a thorough technical study, bringing to light new information that corrects longstanding assumptions about what the painting depicts, which in turn have implications for the child's biography. The discovery of the pigment Prussian Blue—invented in Germany in 1709 and arriving in Britain the following decade—provided a pivotal piece of evidence for redating and rethinking this group portrait.

Such portraits are a stark reminder of Britain's entrenchment in the transatlantic slave trade, which by the beginning of the nineteenth century had seen over two and a half million people ensnared from the west coast of Africa and sold into chattel slavery. These depictions also point specifically to the invidious practice in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries of bringing children to Britain to serve as domestic servants in the households of the elite.

Chattel slavery was ostensibly unlawful within Britain's shoreline. But as these portraits show, this did not stop thousands of Black children and adults from being brought to Britain over the course of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, in an ill-defined but often violently enforced state of what modern writers have characterized as "slavish servitude." Collars made of silver, steel, or brass, of the type seen in the painting, were not used to tether the wearer to other shackles but were impossible to divest from the body and served to deter self-emancipation.

Within the painting, the child not only works but performs another role: he moves from a below-stairs area to a rarefied patriarchal space, to fill the glasses of the three seated men. Here the central figure is Yale University's namesake and early benefactor, Elihu Yale (1649–1721). We can be confident about the identities of Elihu Yale and James Cavendish—

Yale's son-in-law—because their likenesses match those in other portraits. The identities of the other sitters are less secure. Based on comparisons with other portraits, the seated man wearing blue is most likely Dudley North of Glenham Hall, Suffolk, who married Yale's eldest daughter, Catherine. The children in the background are almost certainly Yale's grandchildren.

What does this new information mean for our understanding of the identity and life of the enslaved child? The date of the painting can now be said to fall between around 1719 and 1721. Given the youthful appearance of the child, this suggests he was born in around 1710. It is likely that he was brought to England at around the age of five and presumably had been in the household of one of the seated men for three or four years. A thorough survey of the parish registers for the area in and around Elihu Yale's London home in Queen Square reveals a small but significant Black presence in Bloomsbury in this period, but none of these individuals can be readily identified as the child in the painting.

It is possible that the child's proximity to Dudley North in the painting indicates a tie between them. There was certainly a Black presence in the house-

Collars made of silver, steel, or brass were impossible to remove.

hold of North's wider family: From at least 1721 his cousin Francis North, the second Baron Guilford, had a servant named Francis Juba; he was described as "Black" at his baptism in London but was in fact from India. As a child, Juba served as a page and then remained a salaried member in the household of this other branch of the North family for close to two decades before being apprenticed to a barber and wig maker in London.

It is possible this child's life took a path similar to that of Francis Juba. But it is equally possible that, like many other enslaved children and adults in Britain in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, he chose to run away. At present, we still don't know what happened next in this child's life. ■

EDWARD TOWN is the assistant curator of paintings and sculpture at the Yale Center for British Art.



This group portrait, featuring **Elihu Yale** (who holds a long-stemmed pipe), includes one very young enslaved child.

CHRISTIANITY AND SLAVERY IN NEW ENGLAND

By **Kenneth Minkema**
and **Catherine Brekus**
'93PhD

Although chattel slave-owning in seventeenth-century New England was not common, some Puritan founders of New Haven, such as Theophilus Eaton, did own enslaved persons. By the time Yale moved to New Haven in 1718, the number of enslaved persons in New England was beginning to increase significantly, and the college became inextricably linked to an economy that benefited incalculably from the importing and labor of enslaved persons.

As the number of Africans suffering in bondage in the Americas grew, blackness became associated in white minds with enslavement, and enslavement was justified by the false views that Africans were either inferior or not human, thus contributing to a system of white supremacy that would expand and deepen as time went on. But some raised questions. First, enslaved persons themselves, often in untold ways, engaged in acts of resistance from the beginning. On rare occasions, enslaved persons publicly

New England ministers defended slavery on religious grounds.

denounced slavery, as did a man named Greenwich, of Canterbury, Connecticut, who in 1754 declared before a white congregation that he had “been instructed by the Lord” to say that “justice must take place.” As time went on, some white colonizers denounced the slave trade. Even so, the majority feared miscegenation—the intermixing of races.

Most New England ministers defended slavery on religious grounds. For centuries, Christians had claimed there was no tension between their faith and the practice of slavery: the biblical patriarchs owned slaves, and the Apostle Paul urged slaves to obey their masters. The New England Protestants, heirs of this centuries-long tradition, helped shore up an emerging racially based defense for it. Though slavery exists in the Bible, *racial* slavery does not. In the late 1600s, Christians twisted a passage in Genesis to justify racial bondage. Their key text was Genesis 9, the story of Ham, who saw his father Noah’s nakedness and then faced Noah’s fury as Noah cursed Ham’s son: “Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be.” From the time of Augustine, this passage had been used to defend slavery as the consequence of sin. Nothing in it says anything about blackness, but Protestant interpreters, eager to justify enslaving

Africans, argued that Ham was the one cursed, and that one of Ham’s sons was marked with black skin.

Many Protestants defended slavery as an act of Christian compassion. The merchant John Saffin argued that enslaving Africans made possible their eternal salvation: “It is no evil thing to bring them out of their own Heathenish country.” Rev. Timothy Woodbridge, a Yale trustee, baptized an indentured Native boy named John Waubin. By Woodbridge’s logic, Waubin’s removal from his tribe was a mercy; his soul was far more valuable than his freedom.

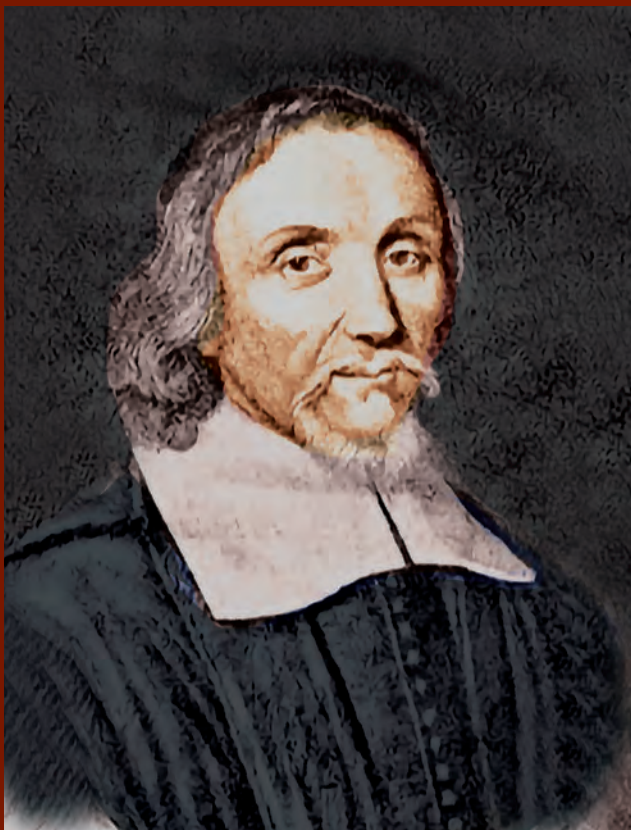
Historically, Christians had believed the enslaved should be freed if they converted. But Protestant ministers argued that even Christian Africans should remain in bondage—a stunning reversal of Christian precedent that transformed Protestant supremacy into white supremacy. The three ministers who occupied the pulpit of the First Church of New Haven between 1700 and 1787 were all slaveholders. The first of them was James Pierpont, who secured the original charter for the school that became Yale.

The first significant cracks in the ethic of Christian slaveholding in New England came during the religious revivals of the 1730s and ’40s. Many enslaved Africans converted to Christianity, and a small number of ministers found it increasingly difficult to justify the slave trade. Samuel Hopkins, Class of 1741, was one of the first white activists to advocate immediate emancipation and the eradication of slavery. A slaveholder early in life, he had repented, manumitting a person he’d held in bondage and financially supporting him. Yet Hopkins and many others espoused sending emancipated Blacks back to Africa. In fact, New Haven and Yale would become a center of the Colonizationist movement.

Few white Christians today understand how Christians in the past failed to see that freedom is at the core of the Christian message. But there was nothing inevitable about white Christians’ eventual opposition to slavery, which came after a long and violent struggle over the meaning of the Christian faith. This struggle did not end with the Civil War. The Protestant supremacy that justified enslavement of the “heathen” turned into the white supremacy that remains with us today. Yale, like every institution with roots in early America, is entangled with this painful and lamentable Christian history. ■

KENNETH MINKEMA, executive editor of *The Works of Jonathan Edwards*, is a research faculty member at Yale Divinity School. **CATHERINE BREKUS** '93PhD is the Charles Warren Professor at Harvard Divinity School.

Clockwise from top left: **James Pierpont** and his wife **Mary Hooker Pierpont**; the pastor of New Haven’s First Church and a founder of Yale, Pierpont was a slaveholder. Alumnus **Samuel Hopkins** was, too, but he repented and became an antislavery activist. New Haven Colony cofounder **Theophilus Eaton** kept people in slavery in the seventeenth century, when it was less common in New England.



THE LAST SALE IN NEW HAVEN

By Adrienne Joy
Burns

My great-great-grandmother was born in South Carolina and was an enslaved person. When I did research about her, in Charleston, South Carolina, I was able to go and see a slave market—unlike in New Haven, where you cannot see the place where Lois and Lucy Tritton were sold as enslaved people in 1825.

That was when the last sale of an enslaved person occurred in New Haven. It was on the New Haven Green. Many of us have stood at a certain bus stop at Temple and Chapel, and very close to that bus stop is the place where Lois Tritton and her daughter, Lucy, were sold and then immediately manumitted. Lucy's emancipation paperwork reads as follows:

Know all men by these presents that I, Anthony P. Sanford, of the City and County of New-Haven, in consideration of a valuable sum of money, received to my full satisfaction of Lucy Tritton, a Female colored Slave, belonging to me, do hereby release and forever Quit Claim to her the said Lucy all the rights and title which I have, or ought to have, to her and her services; and hereby emancipate and set her free.

What would it be like in the city, and on the Yale campus, if all of the history that we discussed in this conference on Yale and Slavery was set free? What would that history be like if it was visible and honest? If we were able to educate, engage, atone, and gather together—as members of the city, as members of the staff of the university, and as students—to talk about this history and bring it into the visible space?

When you walk around New Haven, you don't see a colonial city. You don't see a place that Indigenous people lived in. And you certainly don't see the presence of, or the creation by, all of those African Americans who contributed so much to the making of Yale University and to New Haven.

There's also the recent present. There's Corey Menafee in 2016, taking that broom to destroy the window in Calhoun College that showed enslaved people coming in from the cotton fields. There's 2015, and all of the unrest on campus as students of color called people out for wearing blackface or Indian dress as Halloween costumes—and in return they were called “snowflakes” for being “overly sensitive.” There are the recent petitions from students of the medical school and the School of Nursing, in which they asked to be seen, to have their humanity acknowledged, and not to be treated as if they were different but to be treated like their white peers.

But there's a New Haven teacher named Nataliya

Braginsky—who recently won a Teacher of the Year award from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History—whose students have created podcasts and walking tours about New Haven history. There's something so honest that comes across when you take the tours and you listen to the students talk about their experience of New Haven and how they were able to learn this history and to bring it forward. Can we find creative ways to bring this history to the community? Can we have dialogues

What would it be like if all this history were set free?

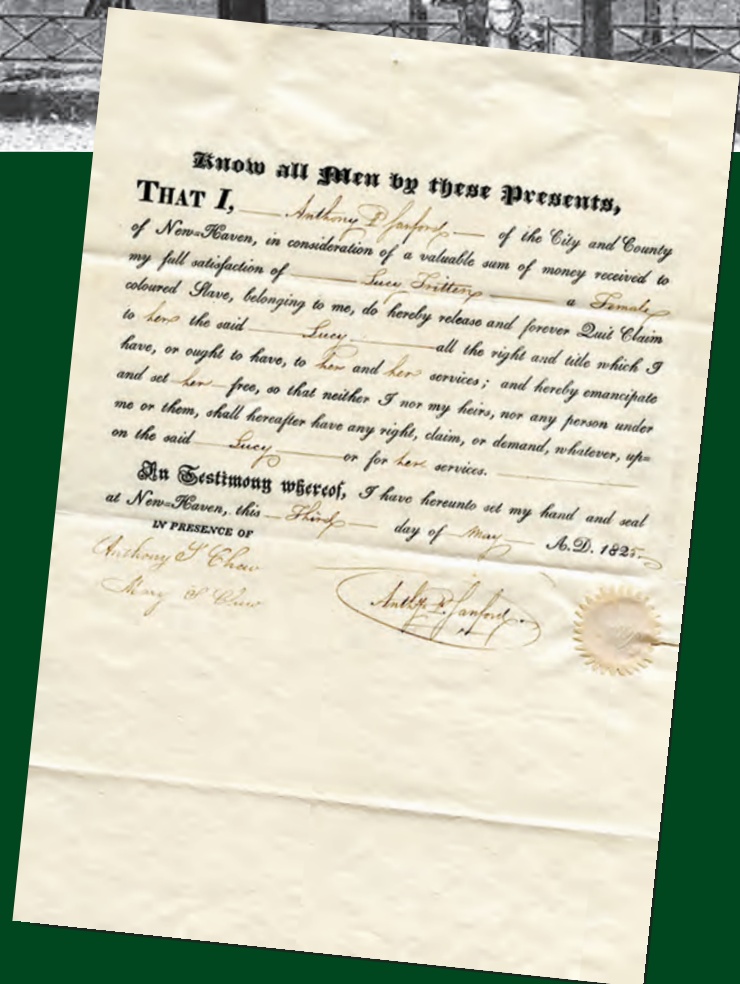
and interactions among New Haveners, and create public art in all kinds of spaces, all over the city, that will engage many different groups of people and draw them into a discussion about this history?

Think of the Witness Stones Project, founded by Dennis Culliton. I worked on a project with Dennis at the Pardee-Morris House in New Haven, in June of this year. Along with young people from the Cold Spring School and the Foote School, we put in stones—markers—with information about the enslaved people who had lived there. Can we put similar markers into public spaces in New Haven, inscribed with information that invites anybody to stop and read at any time of day? It would be wonderful to see Witness Stones on Chapel Street with information about the history of Connecticut Hall.

Recently I took a walk through Grove Street Cemetery. I visited the graves of Sylvia Ardyn Boone '79PhD and John Blassingame '71PhD and Benoit Mandelbrot—Mandelbrot because he created a fractal mathematics that looks like an explosion and that grows bigger, and Blassingame and Boone because I know that if they were here today, they would be saying, “Make this history known. Bring it to a place where anyone in the world can google Alexander Du Bois or Charles McLinn and find out about their history in this city. Bring it. Make it visible. Make the truth and reconciliation that all of us need in order to heal.”

It's overdue. And it's time. ■

ADRIENNE JOY BURNS is a physician assistant at the Yale Cancer Center.



At right: emancipation papers for Lucy Tritton, one of the last two people sold in New Haven, in 1825. Above: a nineteenth-century engraving of the New Haven Green, where the sale took place.

THE BLACK COLLEGE THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN

By Bennett Parten
'23PhD

Reformer and abolitionist Simeon Jocelyn was the pastor at Temple Street Church—now Dixwell Avenue Congregational—in New Haven. In 1831, Jocelyn had the idea to build a college for freed people of color in New Haven. He took the idea to Peter Williams, a key Black leader in New York City, and a then-little-known abolitionist named William Lloyd Garrison. They enlisted the support of Arthur Tappan, a wealthy businessman from New York with a home in New Haven, and took their proposal to the First Annual Convention of the People of Colour. Its leadership included important free Black leaders such as William Whipper, Samuel Cornish, and James Pennington.

Jocelyn, Garrison, and Tappan wanted a college that would provide a scientific and agricultural education, a mechanical education—a practical education. The Black and white allies wanted to establish the college as soon as they could raise \$20,000. They chose New Haven for several reasons: it was a beautiful place, apparently cheap in terms of boarding and provisions. Connecticut's laws were “salutary and protecting to all, without regard to complexion,” and the New Haven residents seemed “friendly, pious, generous, and humane.” They thought Yale had created a “literary and scientific character” in the city that would support the college intellectually. Also, New Haven had ties to the West Indies, which might turn the college into a hub of Black learning for freed people from across the Atlantic.

The Colored Convention thought the school was a wonderful idea and started raising funds. The problem: Jocelyn and Garrison had severely misjudged the character of New Haven. On September 10, the mayor convened a town meeting. The college was voted down by a vote of 700 to 4.

Because a committee drew up resolutions against the college, we have a decent sense of why they opposed it. Six of the ten people on the committee were Yale graduates and prominent New Haveners (including three founders of Yale Law School). They argued that New Haven already had institutions of learning—Yale and a women's school—and that a college for freed people would be “destructive of the best interests of the city.” This was likely a euphemism for their real fear: race mixing.

The other argument, just as spurious, was that although slavery was gradually being abolished in Connecticut, it was legal in other states, and the college would be a step toward emancipation that might incite slaves in slaveholding states to rebellion. This, they said, would be completely irresponsible.

THERE WAS IRRESPONSIBILITY, BUT FROM THE other side. The college proposal sparked an active and violent anti-abolition element in the city. A mob descended on Tappan's house; one Black person's house was “leveled to the ground,” and another Black man was “knocked down in the streets.” Jocelyn would eventually be driven out of the city. And the idea of the college basically died. Jocelyn, Tappan, Garrison, and the Colored Convention tried to keep it alive for a year or two, but the momentum was gone. Fundamentally, the story of the New Haven Black college is the story of a project that failed.

But I would describe the proposal as a landmark moment in the history of abolitionism, because it forced people to make a choice. At the time, the white anti-slavery coalition aligned mostly with the idea of colonization: removing free Black people from the US. It had the support of a number of Southern slaveholders, and it was decidedly racist. It assumed Black inferiority. It also advocated gradual emancipation—but only if emancipation meant forcing enslaved people to leave the US.

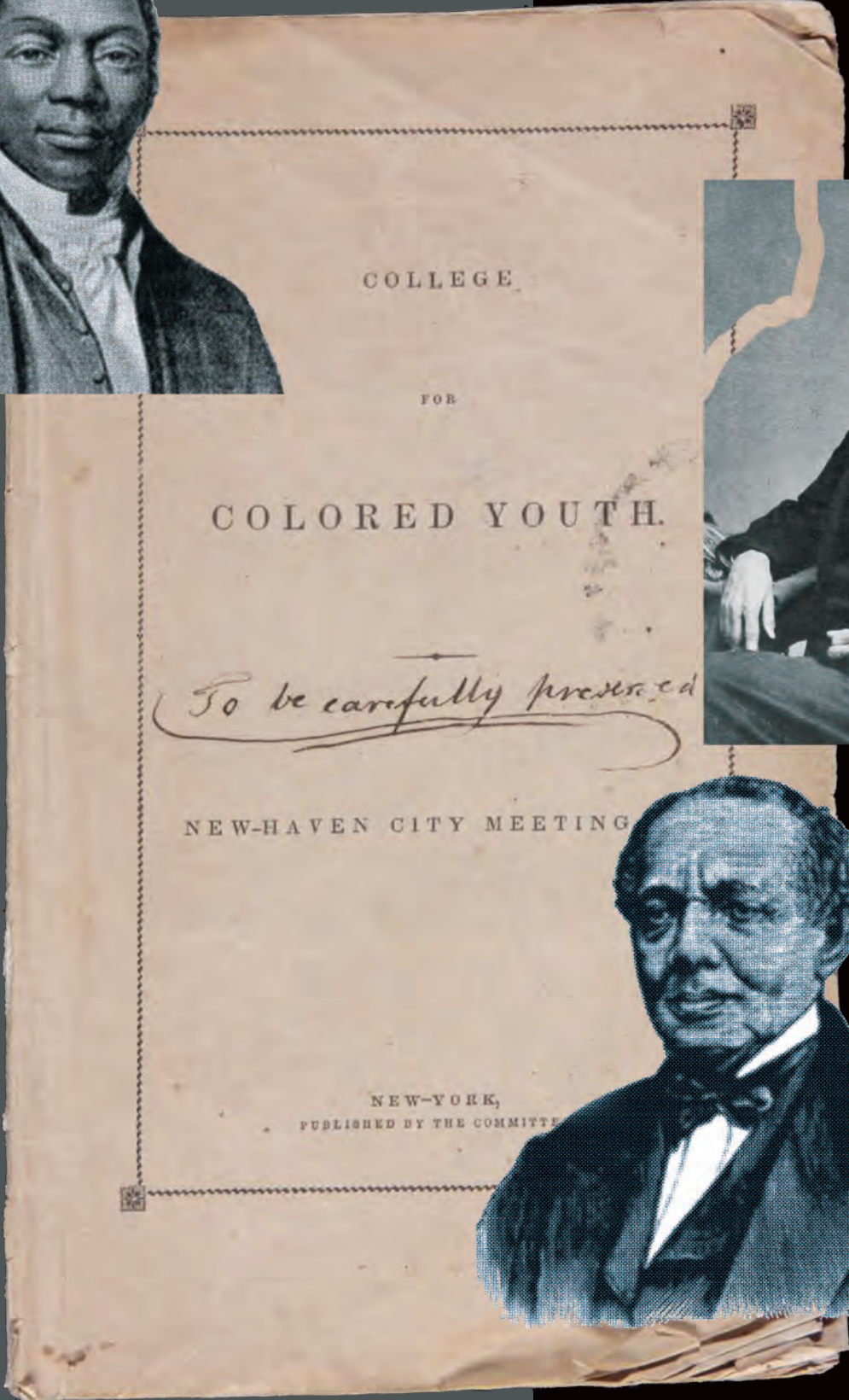
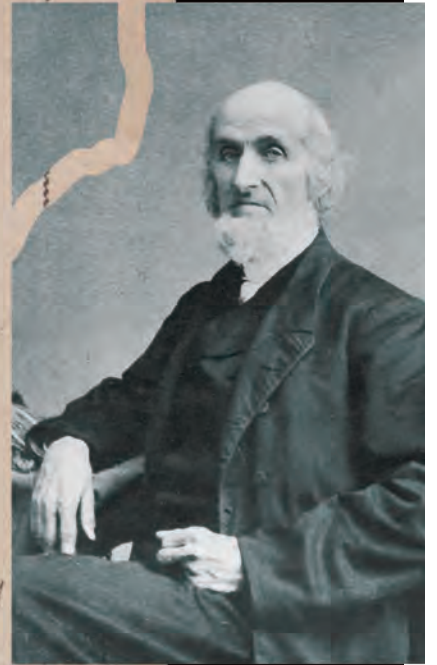
A plan to educate Black people in New Haven met angry opposition.

Black abolitionists, of course, had been inveighing against colonization for years. Their activism was a driving force in the eventual turn against deporting Black people. The college proposal supported this idea. It assumed that Black people would eventually be free and equal citizens with a right to an education. It was a stark departure from the default position of many anti-slavery types—including such Yale faculty as the scientist Benjamin Silliman and the theologian Leonard Bacon. Even as just an idea, the college forced people to decide where they stood.

Finally, I think it's no coincidence that in 1833, many of the same Black leaders, and their white allies from the college effort, would meet in Philadelphia and found the American Anti-Slavery Society: a radical interracial organization that condemned slavery and demanded its immediate abolition. It was the first such organization in American history. ■

BENNETT PARTEN '23PhD is a doctoral candidate in history.

Facing page: an 1831 pamphlet documents the debate over the proposal for a Black college in New Haven. Among its proponents were (clockwise from top left) James Pennington, Simeon Jocelyn, and William Whipper.



COLLAGE: JEANINE DUNN. PAMPHLET: YALE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY. PENNINGTON: MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

PEACE CROWNS THEIR
ACT OF SACRIFICE



YALE COLLEGE

THEODORE WOOLSEY TWINING - B A Class of 1858
Assistant Reynolds of N. Died off N. West for August 14 1864
CHARLES BOARDMAN WHITTLESEY - B A Class of 1855
3rd Co 155th Ohio Infantry of N. Died at Nashville Tenn Feb 21 1864
GEORGE BIBB BURNLEY Class of 1858 First Lieutenant Co E 4th
Regiment N. Infantry of N. Died at Murfreesboro Tenn January 3 1863
CLAUDE GIBSON Class of 1858 Captain 1st Artillery
of N. Died at New Orleans La March 22 1863
HERRICK HAYNOR Class of 1858 First Lieutenant 2nd Regiment
of Cavalry Brigade New York of N. Killed at Williamsburg Va May 5 1862
THOMAS GORDON POLLOCK Class of 1858 Capt Co F 60th Reg 76th Inf
and Acting Inspector Gen Staff of Gen Sherman of N. Killed at Gettysburg Pa July 3 1863
EDWARD CARRINGTON B A Class of 1859 Lt 143rd N. Inf
and Aid de camp of N. Killed at Natural Bridge Va March 6 1865
PETER VIVIAN DANIEL - B A Class of 1859 Captain Company G
9th Kentucky Infantry of N. Killed at Chickamauga Ga September 20 1863
DIODATE CUSHMAN HANNAHS - B A Class of 1859 Captain
of New York Cavalry of N. Died at Williamsburg Va September 10 1862
CHARLES MORTIMER WHEELER - B A Class of 1859 Captain
Company K 126th New York Infantry of N. Killed at Gettysburg Pa July 3 1863
JOHN BETHEL BOWLES Class of 1859 Second Lieutenant Co C
2nd N. Cavalry of N. Killed at Johnson's Island Ohio December 12 1864
GEORGE WATERMAN ARNOLD - B A Class of 1860 Sergeant Co
72nd Rhode Island Infantry of N. Died at Fairfax Seminary Va December 8 1862
HENRY WARD CAMP - B A Class of 1860 Major 10th
Connecticut Infantry of N. Killed near Charles City Roads Va October 3 1864
DANIEL HEBARD - B A Class of 1860 Assistant Adjutant General
in Staff of General W. A. Gorman of N. Died at New York N. T. August 7 1862
WILLIAM CURTIS JOHNSTON - B A Class of 1860 Captain
of N. Infantry of N. Died at Mansfield Va December 3 1862
FREDERICK CALLENDER OGDEN - B A Class of 1860 First
Lieutenant 1st Cavalry of N. Killed near Franklin Station Va June 11 1864
JAMES HENRY SCHNEIDER - B A Class of 1860
Captain 2nd Colored Infantry of N. Died at New York City April 26 1864
WILLIAM MCALEER MARTIN Class of 1860 Captain Co C 4th
Regiment Mississippi Cavalry of N. Killed at Gettysburg Pa July 3 1864
JOHN NEWELL BANNAN - B A Class of 1860 Private Company H
5th Regiment Pennsylvania Cavalry of N. Died at Nashville Tenn Nov 20 1863
WILLIAM BARDWILL CLARK - B A Class of 1860 Captain
of N. Infantry of N. Killed at Fort Fisher Va October 27 1864
HERRICK HAYNOR Class of 1858 First Lieutenant 2nd Regiment
of Cavalry Brigade New York of N. Killed at Williamsburg Va May 5 1862

IRA RUSH ALEXANDER - B A Class of 1860
16th Pennsylvania Cavalry of N. Died at Mine Run
WILLIAM WATSON HOUSE - B A Class of 1860
A 25th Connecticut Infantry of N. Died at Gettysburg Pa July 3 1863
ANDREW FREEMAN SHIVERICK
Company 228th Wisconsin Infantry of N. Died at
RICHARD SKINNER - B A Class of 1862
of Masters Dept of the South of N. Killed near
FRANCIS NORTON STERLING - B A Class of 1862
128th New York Infantry of N. Died at Cape Hatteras
DANIEL EGERTON HEMENWAY - B A Class of 1862
Sergeant 22nd Connecticut Infantry of N. Died at
WILLIAM MCCLURG Class of 1862
1st Reserve Corps of N. Died at Washington D. C.
ALBERT GREGORY MARBLE - B A Class of 1862
Mississippi Battery of N. Died at Atlanta Ga
WILLIAM HENRY MILLER - B A Class of 1862
Captain 44th New York Infantry of N. Died at Fort
GROSVENOR STARR Class of 1862
Adjutant 2nd Connecticut Infantry of N. Died at
HARVEY HARRIS BLOOM - B A Class of 1862
5th New York Infantry of N. Died at North Haverhill
CHARLES WEBSTER - B A Class of 1862
5th Army Corps of N. Died at Washington D. C.
GEORGE STANLEY DEWEY - B A Class of 1862
North Carolina Cavalry of N. Killed at Chancellorsville
HENRY CLAYTON EWING - B A Class of 1862
Major 44th Tennessee Infantry of N. Died at Fort
FRANCIS KERN HELLER - B A Class of 1862
9th Pennsylvania Infantry of N. Died at Gettysburg Pa
ZALMON JOHN MASTER - B A Class of 1862
5th New York Cavalry of N. Killed at Gettysburg Pa
FREDERIC WILLIAM MAITSON - B A Class of 1862
Major 64th Illinois Infantry of N. Died at Corinth
URIAH NELSON TARMELLE - B A Class of 1862
1st Connecticut Cavalry of N. Killed at Gettysburg Pa
CHARLES AVBY PRITCHARD - B A Class of 1862
7th New York Infantry of N. Died at Williamsburg
ARTHUR DE NEUFVILLE TALCO - B A Class of 1862
16th Connecticut Infantry of N. Died at Gettysburg Pa
JOSEPH PAYNE TULLOSS - B A Class of 1862
Tennessee Light Artillery of N. Killed at Island No 10
RICHARD KIRTLAND WOODMAN - B A Class of 1862
1st New York Cavalry of N. Killed at Gettysburg Pa

THE REPUBLIC AND THE CONFEDERACY

By Steven Rome '20

The year 1915 saw the dedication of Yale's Civil War memorial. It had begun in 1909, with a call from Yale alumni at that year's Commencement ceremonies to build a memorial in honor of *all* the Yale men who had fought and died in the Civil War: those who fought for the Union, and those who fought for the Confederacy. The

memorial was ensconced in the heart of the campus, the Woolsey Hall rotunda. The names carved on the marble panels weren't organized by their loyalty. They were organized by class year.

It was the first time a Northern institution of learning had done such a thing. All others built



THE ONGOING AFTERLIFE OF SLAVERY

By Willie Jennings

We have to remember that we are living inside a much longer, older story than the one we experience at Yale today. It is the story of a certain kind of intellectual enlightenment, and that story of enlightenment is tied to a story of terror and enslavement. The challenge is to see both stories as something we're working within. To use a theological term, we're engaged in a kind of exorcism. We're seeking to exorcise the demons that have lurked inside the greed and the theft that originally made the university possible. We're seeking to understand both the theft and the gift that have been woven together: the stealing from and the offering to. In so many universities, and so much of education in this country, we do really well at honoring the gift of education. We don't do very well at understanding the theft.

How might we take both gift and theft and allow ourselves to think deeply, ethically, and morally at the very center of both—such that we don't live in the illusion that it's all a triumphal gift, but rather we

listen to the screams and the cries of those who suffer today? Those, for example, who feel the injustice of a criminal justice system that remains calibrated by the logic of slavery and the era of Reconstruction to treat Black and brown people as threats that must be controlled. That logic shows itself in a prison system that refuses restorative policies and practices and glories in punishment that borders on torture. That torture continues for the formerly incarcerated as they return to a society that has hollowed out their citizenship, keeping them from voting, holding public office, gaining meaningful employment, getting loans, and a whole host of other rights necessary to be made whole again. Their pain must be heard today.

The way to do that is to turn the gift of education, and with it reason, thinking, enlightenment, free-

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dom, and speech, toward rectifying what was taken with theft. There is a danger of not taking slavery seriously as a crucial part of the intellectual work across the university—whether one is in history or calculus, in religion or chemistry. Thinking seriously about the ongoing afterlife of slavery, the disparagement and the poverty, is crucial to all our intellectual work. The accumulation of wealth for those who enslaved, and the denial of the opportunity to accumulate wealth for the enslaved and their freed children, mark two distinct trajectories of living that flow right into our moment and into the lives of all who inhabit universities.

Those trajectories brought with them not simply uneven development, but also developments in how we see or do not see the histories we and our scholarly work inhabit, and how we understand or do not understand our responsibilities in relation to that history. Either we do our work in the academy sustaining the trajectories of living that flow from the outrageous accumulations of wealth born of slavery, or we engage in scholarship and teaching that redirect those trajectories toward a meaningful reparation that restores to the university an authen-

tic partnership with all those seeking justice.

What Yale needs to do—quickly, clearly, and immediately—is to make New Haven a full and complete collaborator, a partner in the work. For too long, it's been obvious that at Yale, as at so many other universities, the vision of what the school is about has not included the very place that it's in. And so its moral footprint has not been at all shaped by that place.

There is really no future in deepening what we have to do without making the City of New Haven not merely a place that needs to be “managed,” but rather a partner in the work. We must allow the city to help shape the direction of the university. Across the country, almost every university treats its city as though the city serves it, instead of treating it as a conversational, an intellectual, and a moral partner. It's time we stopped treating New Haven as though New Haven were the backdrop for Yale. New Haven and Yale are one project. Until Yale starts to see New Haven as a shared project of education and the kind of work we want to do in this world, we will continue to recreate the very dynamic that was born of slavery and has lived in its aftermath. ☑

A bus stop on the New Haven Green.

The man who believed too much

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and the spirits

By Betsy Golden
Kellem '01

Just after sunset on May 8, 1922, a thick crowd of Yale students, professors, curious locals, and women in mourning dress filed into Woolsey Hall, abuzz and murmuring. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of Sherlock Holmes, was in New Haven for the evening and proposed to solve, live and on stage, a mystery beyond the ability of even Holmes and Watson. He titled this tale “The Proofs of Immortality.”

Doyle was not just a famous crime author and a physician, but also a passionate member of the spiritualist movement. Spiritualism, which professed that mere mortals could readily speak to and even photograph spirits in the hereafter, had spread rapidly in the mid-nineteenth century, thanks to an earnest would-be seer named Andrew Jackson Davis and three roguish sisters. Once Davis met the Fox girls and heard the mysterious rapping noises produced when they were channeling communications from the dead, a national craze was on. The girls and their claimed psychic abilities kicked off a fad that persisted in séances, lectures, spirit photography, and spiritualist groups.

The fad retreated into the fringe after one of the sisters admitted that all they'd done was drop apples or crack their toes under the table in front of gullible visitors. But spiritualism didn't disappear. It bloomed again in the 1920s, when a combination of public pressures started to make the comfort of talking to one's departed loved ones seem like an excellent idea. Take into account the number of World War I dead, the postwar recession, the Red Summer race riots in 1919, a clutch of extreme weather events (including more than 30 tornadoes on one day in 1920 alone), and the devastating flu pandemic of 1918–19, and it's easy to see why Ameri-

cans might welcome a message that promised relief from sorrow and fatigue.

This was true across the pond, too: Doyle's England weathered economic depression, unemployment, rising fears of socialism, and political upheaval, all in addition to the crushing death toll of the preceding few years. Ten members of the Doyle household had fallen to war and disease; the author was particularly hard-hit by the death of his son Kingsley, who survived military service only to die of influenza shortly before the armistice in 1918. For Doyle, spiritualism was not only a science but a salve. He would write more than a dozen spiritualist books and take on a leading role in the movement, and by the 1920s, he was focused on little else.

ENCOURAGED BY THE SUCCESS OF SIR OLIVER Lodge, a scientist and spiritualist who had gauged American appetite for the occult in 1920, Doyle lined up a lecture tour for 1922. He arrived in New York on April 9 of that year and packed Carnegie Hall. He then traveled the United States through late June, beating the drum for spiritualism. Yale was an appealing stop between the New York dates and the journeys inland, offering not only scholarly validation (in Doyle's mind), but also a literal breath of fresh air: he wrote in *Our American Adventure* that “The outside of the colleges . . . with the old trees in front of them, and the great green common, gives the European visitor an impression of mellow growth which he seldom receives in this bustling community.”

And Yalies definitely wanted to see Arthur Conan Doyle, for a host of reasons. Some were Holmes fans. Some wanted to see spirits. Still others wanted to blow holes in the whole scheme. A lot of people were

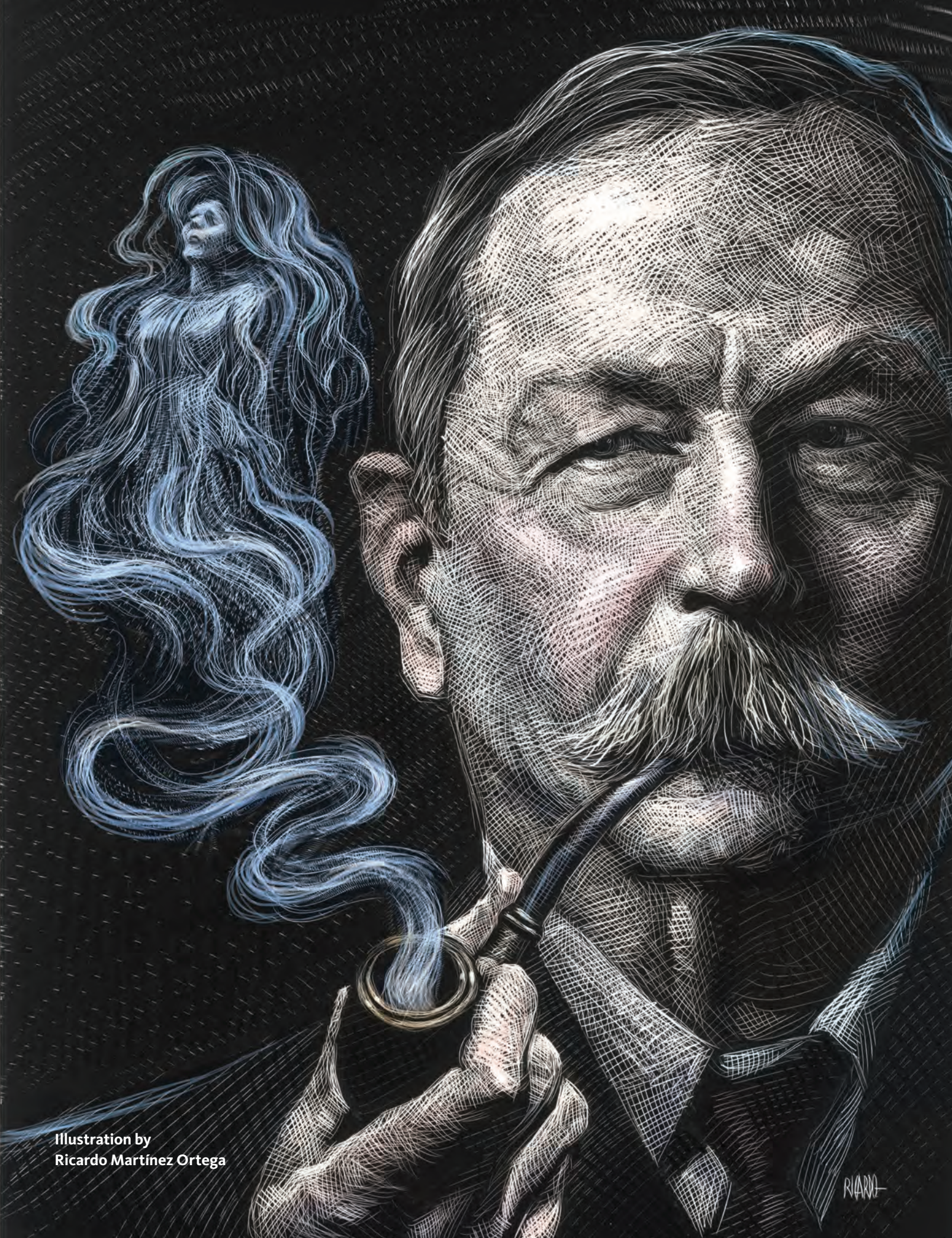


Illustration by
Ricardo Martínez Ortega

RICARDO

curious about “ectoplasm,” a mysterious material that entered press coverage in the run-up to Doyle’s tour and was described as “a thick, vapory, slightly luminous substance which exudes from some materializing mediums.” The Yale Dramatic Association was all too happy to sponsor Doyle’s appearance.

The author was introduced by Roswell P. Angier, a member of the Yale psychology faculty. Doyle apologized for his hoarseness—he had a bad cold—and then got right to business. Stating his bona fides up front, he played on his reputation as a logician, on his decades of study, and, yes, on the fame of his fictional friend in the deerstalker cap. “I am supposed to know something about detective work,” he told the crowd, “and I am not easily imposed upon. I always want proof.”

For Doyle, the events around the séance table were proof enough. He reminisced aloud about his first personal experiences of spiritualism and about receiving messages from the spirits of his brother and his son Kingsley in darkened rooms, feeling their faint caresses and gratefully receiving a kiss on the forehead. A Welsh medium, Doyle said, had

“The transition from this world into the next,” the *YDN* noted, “was described as . . . a glorious reunion of loved ones.”

connected with his mother in a wash of red light, producing a sample of her distinctive ghostly handwriting. These spirits and many more had assured Doyle that their present situation was nothing short of glorious. And all of them knew details about their earthly correspondents that seemed, surely, impossible for any medium to be in on.

As for the afterlife, the *Yale Daily News* reporter sent to cover the event related that “the transition from this world into the next was described as being a glorious reunion of loved ones and the realization of everything that is beautiful.” Doyle flattered his Yale audience by assuring them they would be equally intelligent in the world to come: “When we

die our physical body dies but our etheric body continues to live,” he claimed. “There is no change in our intellectual standing. If we were brainy here, we will be brainy there. If we are fools on this side we will be fools on that side. Those spirits who send messages signing themselves Shakespeare, Milton, or others and write atrocious verse over those names are the fools of the other side.”

His remarks floating into Woolsey’s ringing expanse, Doyle styled an afterlife of refinement and light, a cosmic picnic ground offering only the rosiest, the most comfortable circumstances. This required a lot of world-building and a fair number of caveats. He described, as Dante had, a realm of increasing enlightenment and virtue as the soul ascended higher into its heaven, but unlike the poet, his eschatology had no room for hell: only a mild sort of purgatory, a “spiritual hospital,” awaited the imperfect.

There were technicalities. Doyle explained that souls waited three days before beginning their astral journey, to allow earthly relatives the chance to grieve. One could not use death by suicide to bypass their required earthly trials. Yes, the ectoplasmic soul may be transcendent, but it can yet be photographed here on earth. Spirits have great difficulty in crossing their plane to speak to the living, but they get better at it the more they try. In response to criticism that he was supplanting Christianity, Doyle answered that spirit messages “have not revolutionized religion in any way, but have merely added their convincing testimony” to New Testament text.

And as for the passage of time, well, it seemed largely arbitrary: “If a child of five should die now and its mother 15 years from now,” Doyle explained, “when she passed to the other side she would find him 20 years old. She would not know him but he would know her. An aged person upon reaching the next world is gradually rejuvenated until he or she reaches the best point in life. Beauty and health is regained. We have the best in the next world of what we had in this world.” The *New York Evening World* put it more succinctly in a headline following a Carnegie Hall performance on the same lecture tour: “All Women Pretty and 25, Men 30, in Doyle’s Heaven.”

The stories—and Doyle’s lantern slides of spirit photography, softly illuminated in the dark hall—certainly convinced some attendees: the program was briefly paused when one audience member fainted under the weight of the ideas being discussed. (The other pause in the action was, because some things never change, due to difficulties with the


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slide projector.) Under the headline “A. Conan Doyle Describes Details of Future Life,” the *Yale Daily News* stated that “a lecture by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in Woolsey Hall last night revealed many definite proofs of the existence of a spirit world which is far more beautiful and ideal than this earth.”

In the story *The Sign of the Four*, Sherlock Holmes famously preached that “when you have eliminated the impossible, then whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth.” In his own mind, Doyle—a physician and a legal scholar—was as rigorous as his creation in seeking the truth of the hereafter. The problem was that he was too easily fooled: too reliant upon the hearsay of séance queens, utterly unaware of techniques like “cold reading,” by which mediums can glean key details about their subjects, and too blind to contradictory information. (Skeptics going back to P. T. Barnum had debunked spirit photography as a parlor trick; and “ectoplasm” in the séance chamber was commonly gauze or meat scraps, props that looked ghoulish in a dimly lit room.) Doyle nonetheless believed—at fair risk to his public reputation—in fairy photos, extrasensory powers, ectoplasmic emanations, and the idea that then-new wireless radio technology might reveal psychic truths.

Doyle would brook no dissent. When *Scientific American* offered a contest to authenticate the practice of spiritualism in 1922, he said that they would only attract charlatans, since no medium worth her salt would compete for a cash prize. Lured into sitting for a rigged spirit photography session, he responded that trained sleight-of-hand artists were merely using earthly means to do what the spirits could manage with one ectoplasmic arm tied behind their back. Harry Houdini and Doyle for some years carried on a slightly antagonistic friendship—the magician urging skepticism, the author claiming that Houdini might well have psychic powers even if he didn’t believe in them.

Whenever an opponent poked at spiritualism’s balloon, Doyle and his fellow enthusiasts simply moved towards an unprovable claim, found an exculpatory detail, or leaned harder into their beliefs (when in doubt, blame the spirits!). In an era indelibly marked by heartache and fear, spiritualism offered people like Doyle sure footing, a sense of agency, and a seat on the winning side. Evidentiary gymnastics were little trouble compared with the promise of triumph: “The next world is the place where you are all going sooner or later,” he assured his New Haven audience, adding: “and I hope sooner.” 

This photo of **Sir Arthur Conan Doyle** in his study shows him surrounded by images that came, he believed, from the “spirit world.” (Photography had been getting more sophisticated, and it wasn’t hard to incorporate a photo of someone deceased.) The collection of little objects in the open drawer were also thought to have been tokens left by spirits.

Weigh In!

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ERIC WENZEL '03



Photograph by Bob Handelman



Career pivots

You never know where a sandwich might take you.

By Debra Spark '84

The pandemic gave us a gift. Well, of sorts. A reminder of something we already know: we are all vulnerable; we must value what we have. Or, if we don't value what we have, that we don't "have unlimited time to change," as life coach Kirsten Parker '11MFA notes. Joanne Lipman '83, author and former editor in chief of *USA Today*, says the pandemic made "the entire world rethink its future." She did the same, hitting pause on her plans to write about the generational divide between women so she could write a book about reinvention.

Lipman's book will address multiple kinds of reinvention, but Yale alums who have made significant *career* pivots—whether out of desire or misfortune—bear out her conclusion that people change in similar ways. They start by gathering information, sometimes before they are even aware they are planning a shift, then experience a period (possibly protracted) of struggle before they move. Often a break, chosen or enforced, allows ideas to coalesce. "When you are relaxed or distracted, your brain is working behind the scenes to put together disparate ideas in novel ways, without you realizing it is happening. That's why you have great ideas in the shower or when you are exercising," Lipman says.

The good news, according to Lipman? "Most of the reinvention stories you hear have happy endings."

Here are some of them.

Eric Wenzel '03 loved a certain sandwich—chicken with hot sauce—so much that New Haven's Alpha Delta Pizza named it "the Wenzel." After he left Yale, he went into equity trading. But there came a time when he wanted something very different.

THE WENZEL

When Eric Wenzel '03 was at Yale, he so often ordered a chicken sandwich with hot sauce at Alpha Delta Pizza that “the Wenzel” became an item on the menu, with enough of a cult following that the sandwich is to more recent alums what the Mory’s drinking cup was to older generations: something you had to experience before graduation. After Yale, he worked in finance (as an equity trader). He didn’t so much choose to leave the field as realize, on parting ways with a former employer, that if he wanted to become a full-time entrepreneur, now was the time.

Wenzel trademarked his name and perfected a recipe.

During his Wall Street days, he’d asked Alpha Delta Pizza, “If I can make a hot sauce better than what you have, will you use it on the Wenzel?” They’d agreed. So Wenzel trademarked his name and perfected a recipe. Later, when he left finance, what he’d thought would be an online retail hobby became his full-time business.

For a sandwich story that seems all fun, the tale has a tragic middle layer: in his senior year, Wenzel was seriously injured in a car accident that killed four others and left him in a coma. Now he honors those friends through Bulldogs Care Foundation, which dedicates a portion of Wenzel sauce profits toward programs for disadvantaged youth.

REWRITING THE PLAN

Joshua Gitelson '92 went into entertainment after college, focusing on scriptwriting and film editing, but mostly earning a living at the latter and notably spending the early aughts with the TV series *The Practice*. When he followed his wife to Oregon for her job in academic law, the distance from Los Angeles proved a professional disadvantage. Then his wife got a job in Virginia and subsequently Minnesota. This was no better for Gitelson’s film career, and his writing was beginning to frustrate him. He’d assented to a stay-at-home-dad role but felt he needed to consider plan B: which was law school. His wife was a lawyer, many people in his family were lawyers, and he’d spent eight years with a TV show *about* lawyers. So, at 40, he returned to law school. He worked for several years as a divorce lawyer; then his wife made yet another move for her career, this

time to the middle of Pennsylvania, where she would be the dean of a law school.

Given her position, Gitelson’s income wasn’t essential for his family, so he kept tending to the children and household. But, as the cases that had most intrigued him in law school concerned assisted reproductive technology, he called one of the few lawyers in the area involved in both this and adoption law. As it happened, she was about to leave the country on a Fulbright and needed someone to cover adoption hearings while she was away. Gitelson signed on. Divorce law hadn’t suited him, but now he felt he was “trafficking in happiness.” He says, “I see people at the culmination of their most sacred aspirations and dreams, at the moment they become parents, and then I go home and try to make *my* family happy.”

The latest: Gitelson’s wife was hired as the dean of the Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, so yet another change is afoot. “I hope I can reproduce what I have now there,” Gitelson says. “I am aware of the fragility of contentment.”

WHEN CHANGE CHANGES EVERYTHING

At 36, Mats Carlsson '81 was diagnosed with cervical dystonia, a painful condition that steadily worsened, until he was unable to properly move his head. Interactions with others became increasingly difficult. When sitting up, he had to stabilize his head with his hands. He credits the Swedish health care system, his wife’s employment, and the broadness of his Yale education with allowing him to leave his job teaching Swedish for work he could do lying down: investing in biotech firms. “It is hard for Yalies to face a condition where they may have to lose their dignity by taking a lesser job, even as they see classmates go into greater and greater careers,” he says. Yet five years ago, when brain stimulation surgery made it possible for him to reconsider teaching, he decided that “the excitement of assisting companies in bringing new drugs to the market (and some day trading) makes my ‘new job’ one that I will keep until I die.”

“WHAT IT MEANS TO LIVE”

Though he was a finalist for the Rhodes Scholarship, Casey Gerald '09 was enough of an innocent in some areas that, in his sophomore year at Yale, when a football teammate told him he should become an

DEBRA SPARK '84, professor of creative writing at Colby College, has published nine books.

Weigh In!

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investment banker, Gerald said, “What’s that?”

“People who make \$60,000 a year,” the upper-classman said.

The figure persuaded. After all, Gerald’s grandmother (who was, at times, his primary caregiver) made \$60 a day cleaning houses. But two college summers with Lehman Brothers wasn’t an auspicious start. So, after three years in DC, Dallas and, New York, Gerald went to Harvard Business School. With three HBS classmates, including Amaris Singer ’07, a “let’s go on a road trip” lark turned into a purpose. They cofounded the nonprofit MBAs Across America, which Gerald describes as “a domestic Peace Corps for business students.” The goal was to have MBAs use their education to aid small businesses in underserved communities. Gerald was impressed by what he found across the country: entrepreneurs building successful mission-driven businesses, despite long odds. But, after only two years, he started to question his organization’s theory of change. “Not,” he clarifies, “if it would work. Put four Harvard MBAs in a café in Arkansas, and a business will get better, but it felt like we were doing dialysis on a country that needed a kidney transplant.” He felt both enraged by the structural inequities he saw around the country and as if he were contributing to



“Publishing is the only industry where they will pay you to investigate your own problems.”

those inequities by “substituting hopeful stories”—like his own personal story, as a poor Black boy from Oak Cliff, Texas, who had flourished at Ivy League schools and beyond—“for justice.”

In early 2016, Gerald, already drawing substantial media attention for MBAs Across America, was invited to give a TED Talk. He now describes that speech as the most elaborate resignation letter ever. Funny, moving, and impassioned, the talk went viral, the script later becoming part of a presentation Gerald gave to open for Barack Obama at SXSW. But the TED talk was a turning point; Gerald walked away from all he’d achieved to date in order to write.

“Publishing is the only industry where they will pay you to investigate your own problems,” Gerald says. Though his gifts as speaker at a Harvard Business School Class Day had audience members en-

couraging him to write, the author Anand Giridharadas did the actual convincing.

In 2016, Gerald moved to Austin to begin a memoir. Later that year, he learned that a dear friend—a Yale graduate, one year his junior but with a background similar to his—had committed suicide. The two men had been in touch only a month earlier, and all had seemed fine then.

Writing the memoir that would later become *There Will Be No Miracles Here* (Riverhead), Gerald felt blocked when he had to describe his Yale years. So he took a nap—“aided by some bourbon,” he notes. His friend came to him in a dream and said,

Casey Gerald '09 followed up his Harvard MBA by cofounding the nonprofit MBAs Across America, a “domestic peace corps for business students.” But it was through writing that he found his sense of purpose.

“You know, Casey, we did a lot of things we wouldn’t advise anyone we loved to do.” Gerald woke up and put the line in the book. After, he felt his book had two narrative lines, one that clearly articulated what his life had been and another that was a work of imagination, addressed to, as he puts it, “what it means to live, to truly live, to be whole, a better friend, a better lover, instead of being great, as we are conditioned to be at places like Yale.”

“WHAT NOW?”

At multiple points in his life, Peter Cu’òng Franklin ’86 has had to stop himself and say, “OK, Peter, what are you going to do now?” The first time was after he graduated from Yale and realized that, despite his previous plans, he didn’t really want to study medicine. So he did what so many of his classmates did; he went to work for Morgan Stanley. Over the next 20 years, the job took him to New York, London, and Hong Kong, and he was fired . . . twice. But he always bounced back, a talent he attributes to his familiarity with abrupt life changes, having left Vietnam as a teenage refugee in 1975, one day before the collapse of South Vietnam. He was subsequently adopted by a US Navy chaplain.

Still, in 2010, after that second firing, another “OK, Peter, what are you going to do now?” made him choose to study cooking at the Cordon Bleu branch in Bangkok. After a year, he asked himself the question yet again and answered with an application for a PhD in anthropology at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He figured he’d study food culture.

“And guess what?” he says. “They rejected me.”

In hindsight, he suspects he would not have made a good academic. Still, he returned to Hong Kong, which has a tradition of “unofficial kitchens,” he says. These are essentially establishments in private homes that are relatively easy to open and come with little risk. A friend told him about an available space in a dilapidated building in Lan Kwai Fong, the dining and entertainment district in Hong Kong’s center. Franklin took it and began to discover his own cooking style. The first endeavor segued into others. Eventually, Franklin opened three restaurants in Hong Kong, a seven-year stint that ended, he reports, when he divorced, sold his restaurants, put his belongings in storage, and went to Ho Chi Minh City with only a backpack. It was another tabula rasa moment.

And then yet another phone call from a friend, this time telling him about a space in a wet market in Ho Chi Minh City. Others told him it was a bad

idea, given that the country has no shortage of great restaurants. But he persisted, and since 2017, he has been the chef of Anan Saigon, which was listed by Asia’s 50 Best Restaurants 2021 as the number one restaurant in Vietnam. “That is,” Franklin explains, “a little like the Oscars of the food world.” As for the “What now?” refrain that has accompanied him throughout his adult life, Franklin says, “I have learned to accept the question is part of the life journey. There is no final answer.”

CRAFTING A DIFFERENT FUTURE

Anne Weil ’94 was sitting in a windowless conference room in San Antonio, Texas, under flickering lights, doing what she did so well: sealing a real estate deal. She’d been in banking and real estate finance virtually since college, and she was good at it—detail-oriented and hardworking, even though she didn’t have the passion others had for *this* particular moment. In fact, she was thinking she didn’t

The blog was going to be a full-time endeavor, with advertisers, sponsored content, and DIY kits.

want to spend her life this way.

Later, she tried other things—like a career break to study landscape architecture—but she kept returning to real estate asset management and investment analysis. Then, in 2012, 13 years after that Texas day, her husband was hired by the Baltimore Ravens. He said, “I have my dream job. You should pursue yours.”

Two years earlier, as she had always liked making and designing objects, she had begun flaxandtwe.com, a blog devoted to crafts. She loved every aspect of the blog—taking the photographs, writing project instructions, giving people, as she says, “time for their own creative life.” Now the blog was going to become a full-time endeavor, with advertisers, sponsored content, and an online shop with DIY kits for stylish baskets, bracelets, and other objects that are, as she puts it, “elevated to a modern aesthetic” and “not your grandmother’s crafts.”

It still took her nearly a year to close down her real estate career, but on the day she sold her final property, a publisher called to ask her to write a book. She found herself an agent and subsequently

If you’re thinking of a career pivot, Yale’s **Office of Career Strategy** (ocs.yale.edu) offers job resources plus advisers, coaches, and mentors. Also try out the **Yale Alumni Association’s** crosscampus.yale.edu networking platform.

To read **more stories** of alums who made mid- to late-life career changes, go to: yalealumnimagazine.com/articles/5422



Margaret Aiken '04, shown here at the Detroit Institute of Arts, found that running a museum mostly involved raising funds and attending to crises.

published *Knitting Without Needles* and *Weaving Within Reach*.

As much as she adores what she is doing, Weil realizes that she had been anxious about her performance before, often asking herself if she had enough information, if she had done enough work, and if people liked what she did. Though she clearly has been successful in both of her careers, she still pesters herself with such questions, but now she does so, she says, with “joy and excitement.”

ON THE ROAD TO FORD

When she was a child visiting the Cranbrook Institute of Science, Margaret Aiken '04 passed an older gentleman busy with a magnifying glass, tweezers, and a shoebox.

“What are you doing?” she asked.


“Reconstructing a fossilized turtle shell,” he answered. “Do you want to help?”

She did, and for much of her professional life, she kept helping, whether in science, art, or history museums, advancing until she became the executive director of Michigan’s Port Huron Museum of Arts and History, in the very town where she’d been born. Her goal? Inspire curiosity. Instead she raised funds and attended to crises. After five months, she felt burnt out, as if she’d come on too strong, arriving without enough understanding of her community, despite her relationship to it. So she gave notice.

With no idea what to do next, she started cooking

at a restaurant, though having attended both boarding school and Yale, “the most cooking I’d done was scrambling eggs,” she claims. Still, the job allowed her time to think. Three of her brothers were in technology, so she knew the field was virtually recession-proof. She took some classes, including courses that introduced her to user experience design. A Chicago boot camp session provided even more expertise. “This was the perfect marriage of what I had been doing and what I wanted to get into,” she says. She landed her first job, in product design, with the FordPass app, on March 13, 2020, with a start date

“The most cooking I’d done was scrambling eggs.”

of April 1—the joke being very much on her, given that the pandemic kept pushing the true starting date forward. Finally, in mid-November 2020, she (remotely) began a new job in a new industry. “I’ve learned something few people are ready to admit,” she says, “which is the start of anything is uncomfortable, but if you persist through the discomfort and have humility and a growth mindset, you get to the point where you don’t feel so uncomfortable anymore.” 

Redefining the book

Object lesson

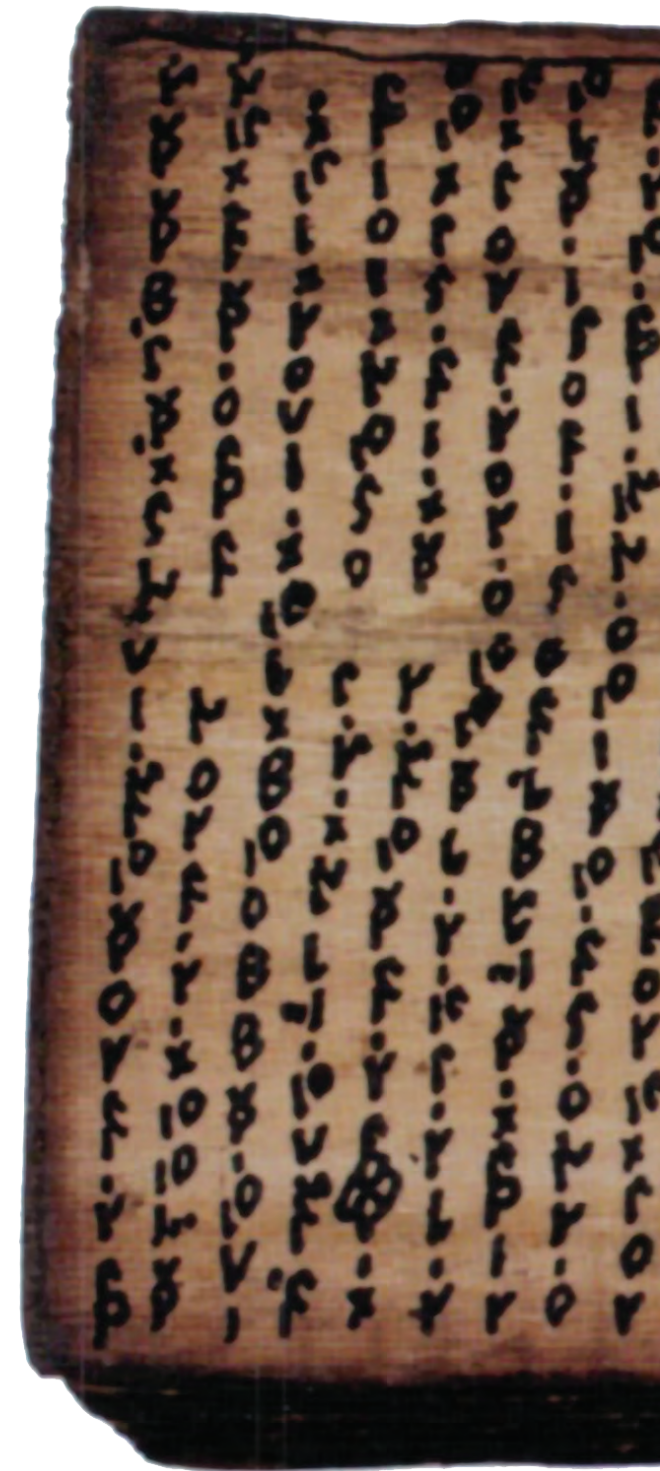
In the twenty-first century, we in the wealthier nations are quite accustomed to books on paper. Even with the rise of digital reading platforms, many of us still have overflowing bookshelves. Leather-bound or paperback, a book you crack open will likely present you with orderly rows of neat, printed text on creamy white paper. Of course, this familiar and fond experience is not universal. Many different cultures have made books in all sorts of forms, from scroll to codex, and out of a kaleidoscope of materials, from parchment to bamboo.

The image shown here, of a bark book in the Beinecke Library's collection made by the Batak people of northern Sumatra, challenges our notion of what a book is. This particular volume is a divination book, also called a *pustaha*, which was made for use by a *datu*: a shaman and healer. *Pustaha* are frequently made of materials like the bark of an *Aquilaria* tree, a writing surface unique to the Batak people. While *pustaha* deal with medicine or divination and are the dominant type of surviving book from pre- or early colonial Batak society, other objects preserve other traditions, of love laments and poems. These books entered the realm of Western scholarly interest in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, in part driven by their perceived exoticism and by the intervention of German missionary and Dutch colonial interests in Indonesia.

The Yale book, like most *pustaha*, is folded like an accordion.

A *pustaha* could be used as an informal (and highly individual) way of recording instructions for how to complete a particular rite. Such a document could support oral instruction for the beginning *datu* and serve as a reference work for the well practiced. The Yale book, like most *pustaha*, is folded like an accordion—a style of binding that has found popularity in manuscript cultures around the world. It is made of a single, thin, long strip of bark.

Dated to between 1860 and 1920, this example is written in *Hata Poda*, a language that was long thought to be understood only by the *datu* himself. The writing was carried out by use of a sugar palm pen dipped in a specially prepared black ink. Batak, as a language group, is divided into six sub-categories, representing the diversity to be found



between northern and southern ethnic groups of Batak people. As a result, surviving *pustaha* can act as witnesses to the linguistic differences among the Batak peoples.

Divination practices vary widely from place to place: from casting sticks to observing astronomical phenomena to reading tarot cards. The rituals in the Beinecke *pustaha* fall into the category of augury,

Made by the Batak people of northern Sumatra between 1860 and 1920, this *pustaha* offers descriptions of rituals, specifically the use of birds for divination.



in this case the use of birds for divination. Used by cultures around the world, augury often demands the dissection and examination of a bird's entrails for hints about what is yet to come. As beings that exist between the heavens and the earth, birds were thought to communicate instructions from gods and foretell future events. Their entrails became ciphers to be read by the *datu* on behalf of his followers.

In the upper right corner of the *pustaha*, one can see two illustrations of birds that resemble chickens, complete with jaunty combs. These charming illustrations are just two of the 45 images of men and birds to be found throughout the manuscript.

KRISTEN HERDMAN is a PhD candidate in medieval studies; **RAYMOND CLEMENS** is curator for early books and manuscripts at the Beinecke Library.

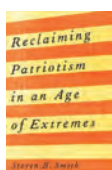
arts & culture

Output



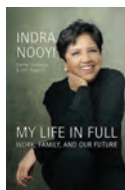
Books Promiscuously Read: Reading as a Way of Life (FSG, \$25) — *Heather Cass White '92*. “Not everyone has to be a reader,” says White—rather surprising, coming from an English professor. But it’s one of the 22 propositions she lists in a book that is actually

an exquisite love song to the “rich inner experience” of reading. Surrendering “with one’s whole attention,” she says, will both expand the pleasure of absorbing words well written and enlarge the reader’s own self-knowledge. Read like a 12-year-old girl, White advises: “Pick up a book and forget who you are.”



Reclaiming Patriotism in an Age of Extremes (Yale University Press, \$28) — *Steven B. Smith, the Alfred Cowles Professor of Political Science*. Is patriotism, as many on the left side of the political spectrum see it, the “last refuge of a scoundrel” (to quote Samuel

Johnson), or is it exemplified by the “America, right or wrong” devotion of the political right? Smith examines the bitterly contentious and uniquely American form that “loyalty to one’s own, one’s people, one’s community, but especially to one’s constitution or political regime” has taken in this country. He shows how we got into our present divide, and he urges us to return to our “deliberative and self-questioning” political and philosophical roots and adopt an “enlightened patriotism.”



My Life in Full: Work, Family, and Our Future (Portfolio/Penguin, \$28) — *Indra Nooyi '80MBA*. And what a life! When Nooyi was growing up in southern India in the 1950s and '60s, few could have predicted she’d find her way to Yale’s

fledgling School of Management and embark on a groundbreaking career that would eventually have her leading PepsiCo, as the first woman of color and first immigrant to head a Fortune 50 company. Part memoir, part operating manual for corporate success, Nooyi’s account also makes a heartfelt and hard-headed case for a

To have your book, CD, app, podcast, or other work considered for Output, please send a copy to Arts Editor, *Yale Alumni Magazine*, PO Box 1905, New Haven CT 06509; or email a copy or a link to yam@yale.edu.

“model of sustainable capitalism” that encompasses “paid leave, [workplace] flexibility and predictability, and care.”



Vanderbilt: The Rise and Fall of an American Dynasty (HarperCollins, \$30) — *Anderson Cooper '89 and Katherine Howe*. If you’ve ever wandered by

Vanderbilt Hall on Old Campus and wondered about its namesake, this is the book for you. Veteran

CNN reporter Cooper is the great-great-great grandson of the shipping and railroad tycoon Cornelius “Commodore” Vanderbilt; he and historian Howe chronicle a family that amassed fabulous wealth in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. They became “American royalty, with titles and palaces to prove it. But the empire would last for less than a hundred years before collapsing under its own weight.”



Chicago's Great Fire: The Destruction and Resurrection of an Iconic American City (Grove/Atlantic Inc., \$19) — *Carl Smith '74PhD*. At about nine in the evening of October 8, 1871,

Chicagoans Catherine and Patrick

O’Leary were shouted out of bed by a neighbor. “Kate,” Patrick screamed, “the barn is afire!” Two days later, the conflagration (which was not, urban legend notwithstanding, caused by Catherine’s milk cow kicking over a kerosene lantern) had “devastated close to three square miles of cityscape,” writes Northwestern University historian Smith, in a deep dive into the catastrophe and aftermath. The fire left a third of Chicago’s estimated 334,000 residents homeless, and the tumultuous rebuilding effort remains “an open-ended work in progress.”



Land of Cockaigne (Haus Publishing, \$22.95)

— *Jeffrey Lewis '66*. One day, Walter Rath and his wife, Charley, packed up the fortune he’d made as a Silicon Valley investor and sailed away on the yawl *Concordia*.

The couple weighed anchor in a Maine coast town, Sneeds Harbor. To Walter, the place recalled the Land of Cockaigne, “no work, no worry, no death.” But death came. Stephen, the child they’d raised in Sneeds Harbor, was murdered in the Bronx. They tried to honor Stephen’s memory, bringing a group of troubled teens he and his girlfriend had worked with to visit the Maine town for a couple of weeks. What could possibly go wrong?

Calendar

Campus buildings have begun to open up, but some have limited hours or require ticket entry. Check websites for more information.

Today Is My Birthday

Yale Repertory Theatre

(203) 432-1234

<https://yalerep.org/productions/today-is-my-birthday/>

For its first live production since 2020, the Yale Rep stages a critically acclaimed play by Susan Soon He Stanton '10MFA: a comedy about loneliness in the age of connectivity.

JANUARY 27 THROUGH FEBRUARY 19

at home: Paul Mellon Lectures | Eve Tam

Center for British Art

(877) BRIT ART

<https://britishart.yale.edu/exhibitions-programs/home-paul-mellon-lectures-eve-tam>

Paul Mellon Lectures present Eve Tam, assistant director (heritage and museums) in the Leisure and Cultural Services Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, on “Remaking the Museum.” Free; register in advance.

FEBRUARY 11, 12 PM

Gold in America: Artistry, Memory, Power

University Art Gallery

(203) 432-0600

<https://artgallery.yale.edu/exhibitions/exhibition/gold-america-artistry-memory-power>

The first exhibition since 1963 to survey the role of gold in American art and culture, *Gold in America* features more than 70 examples spanning 400 years.

FEBRUARY 25 THROUGH JULY 10

Medical Astrology: Science, Art, and Influence in Early Modern Europe

Harvey Cushing/ John Hay Whitney Medical Library

<https://onlineexhibits.library.yale.edu/s/medicalastrology/page/introduction>

This online exhibition comprises nearly 200 images that explore the visual history of medical astrology in Europe between the fifteenth and seventeenth centuries.

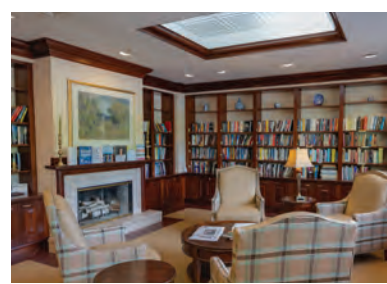
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Reviews



They Knew: The US Federal Government's Fifty-Year Role in Causing the Climate Crisis

JAMES GUSTAVE SPETH
'64, '69LLB
MIT Press, \$27.95
Reviewed by Bruce Fellman

The road to climate hell has long been paved with deniability. While climate scientists over the past half century have amassed evidence that the use of fossil fuels is bringing about

environmental disaster, US presidents and congresses have been steadfast in looking the other way. The publication of this well-researched, damning examination and indictment of federal policies will make it impossible to assert ignorance ever again.

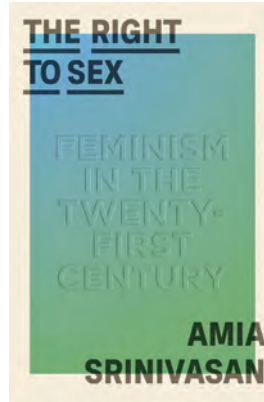
The government's "actions on the national energy system over the past several decades are, in my view, the greatest dereliction of civic responsibility in the history of the Republic," writes Speth, a lawyer who helped found the Natural Resources Defense Council, chaired the US Council on Environmental Quality, served as administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, and led Yale's environment school as dean.

The government knew burning fossil fuels would lead to climate danger.

In 2018, Speth prepared expert testimony for a lawsuit—*Juliana v. United States*—in which a group of 21 young men and women asserted that the government had, by acting in ways that caused climate change, violated the upcoming generation's constitutional rights and failed to protect public resources. The suit, originally filed in federal court in 2015, remains in limbo. But through all the twists and turns, no one has disputed Speth's evidence, which shows that federal administrations knew "that the continued burning of high levels of fossil fuels would lead to climate danger." The government also knew that there were "pathways . . . to transition away from fossil fuels."

Some changes have begun: wind farms, solar panels, electric cars. But the status quo is basically in place, with fossil fuels accounting for over three-fourths of US energy consumption. Speth calls it "government malfeasance on a grand scale." Is anyone in power listening?

BRUCE FELLMAN is a contributing writer to the *Yale Alumni Magazine*.



The Right to Sex: Feminism in the Twenty-First Century

AMIA SRINIVASAN '07
FSG, \$28

Reviewed by Heather Hewett '91

Amia Srinivasan's provocative book, *The Right to Sex*, parses the "politics and ethics of sex" in six memorable essays grounded in feminist thought. Her prose is eminently readable, combining philosophical

rigor with writerly craft. Throughout, she intervenes into decades-old feminist debates and addresses a range of contemporary issues, from "involuntary celibate" culture and Internet pornography to sex work, Title IX, and sexual violence.

Srinivasan wrote the collection's eponymous essay in response to Elliot Rodger's 2014 manifesto and killing spree in Isla Vista, California. Like many feminists, Srinivasan was troubled by Rodger's "male sexual entitlement, objectification, and violence," but she was also interested in what wasn't addressed in media commentary: sexual desire. In this essay and others, she asks us to think about how desire is connected to internalized gender norms and the "ugliest" parts of our culture—racism, classism, ableism, heteronormativity—and how these forces shape "whom we do and do not desire and love, and who does and does not desire and love us."

On many issues, Srinivasan is adamant. "There is no right to sex," she says; women do not owe men orgasms. She criticizes feminism's embrace of liberalism since the 1980s and how it has failed the most vulnerable women, who face increasing economic inequality. She is quite clear that there is no "conspiracy against men" in which women falsely allege rape or sexual harassment. Rather, she says, this claim reflects the anxiety felt by middle-class and wealthy white men who fear their privilege no longer protects them.

At other moments, Srinivasan acknowledges ambivalence. She asks difficult questions without clear answers: how can we think about "sex beyond consent"? If we have internalized the "distortions of oppression," how do we know whom we truly desire? Might the law be "the wrong tool for the job" when addressing sexual violence? Srinivasan reminds her readers that feminism, at its best, challenges us to tell the truth and to think carefully about what it means to work toward a more just world.

HEATHER HEWETT is a gender studies professor and coeditor of *#MeToo and Literary Studies: Reading, Writing, and Teaching about Sexual Violence and Rape Culture* (Bloomsbury 2021).



Squirrel Hill: the Tree of Life Synagogue Shooting and the Soul of a Neighborhood

MARK OPPENHEIMER '96, '03PHD
Penguin Random House, \$28.95
Reviewed by Veronique Greenwood '08

On the morning of October 27, 2018, a shooter killed 11 Jews in the Tree of Life synagogue in the Pittsburgh neighborhood of Squirrel Hill. It was the

deadliest act of anti-Semitic violence in American history. The shooter's motivations were dreadfully familiar, and he is not really part of this story.

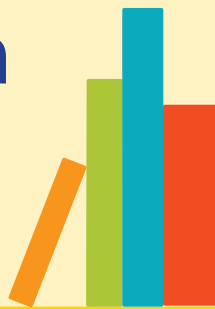
In this warm portrait of "the oldest, most stable, most internally diverse Jewish neighborhood in the United States," Mark Oppenheimer '96, '03PhD, walks

readers through the unusual place that the shooter, in his venom, attacked. Squirrel Hill, solidly Jewish for more than 100 years, is threaded with many strands of the Jewish experience. Apartment dwellers live alongside mansion owners, and the pillars of the community include Orthodox rabbis and a priestess who specializes in "earth-based Jewish ritual." In Oppenheimer's telling, all that vibrancy and variety may have been one of the factors that helped Squirrel Hill respond to the tragedy.

Almost pointillist in its approach, the book meanders through profiles of Squirrel Hill's inhabitants, including the 90-year-old retired psychiatrist whom the shooter looked at but didn't shoot, the teenagers who organized a vigil at the nearby Starbucks, and the Trump-voting Orthodox matchmaker who rode her bicycle through a protest during the president's visit to the synagogue. Oppenheimer deftly transforms this storm of voices and moments into a moving account of a tragedy that struck in a genuine community, strong enough to counter shock and grief with an unexpected ragtag resilience.

VERONIQUE GREENWOOD '08 writes for the *New York Times*, the *Atlantic*, the *BBC*, and many others.

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sporting life

The return of The Game



DAN RENZETTI

The **Yale Bowl** (above) was abuzz after a year of silence for the football game with Harvard on November 20. A touchdown catch by **Darrion Carrington '22** (facing page, left) put Yale on the scoreboard in the first quarter.

All-American cross country runner **Kayley Delay '22** (facing page, right) took first place at the Ivy Heptagonals and tenth at the NCAA national championship.

After nearly two years, perhaps the clearest sign that Ivy League sports had returned was the sound of nearly 50,000 fans packed into the Yale Bowl for the 137th meeting of Yale and Harvard in football. Though Ivy competition had resumed earlier in the fall, the pageantry of The Game on a beautiful Saturday in November offered both a warm, convivial jolt of tradition and a welcome contrast to the empty stands and lost seasons that came before. The play on the field also rose to the occasion: The Game was a thrilling back-and-forth affair, but one that saw the Bulldogs fall in the final seconds to Harvard, 34–31.

For the defending Ivy League champions, as for all Yale athletic teams, it was an arduous path back to the gridiron after a full season away. Many seniors retained their eligibility to play by not enrolling at Yale for some or all of the last academic year. “Every champion wants to defend their title. Every champion wants to get everyone’s best again. Having 2020 stripped from us felt like a punch in the face, and nobody in our senior class wanted to leave on that note,” said Melvin Rouse II '22, a leading receiver who was elected by his teammates as this year’s most valuable player. “You either want to defend your title

or you want to give it up, but you want to have the opportunity to do it.”

An up-and-down season featured a number of tough losses, including eventual co-Ivy champion Dartmouth and in-state rival UConn, which Yale faced for the first time in 22 years. By the final game of the season, Yale and Harvard had effectively seen their Ivy title hopes dashed. Still, all eyes were on New Haven for a matchup of one of the Football Champion Subdivision’s best defenses versus a young Yale team that had shown flashes of offensive firepower throughout the season.

Quarterback Nolan Grooms '24, a threat on the ground and in the air, got the Bulldogs on the board early with a nearly perfect 94-yard march down the field on Yale’s opening drive, capped by a 17-yard touchdown throw to Darrion Carrington '22. But Yale’s early fortune soon faded. Grooms was intercepted on two consecutive pass attempts, and Harvard returned a blocked punt to put the Crimson up 20–10 midway through the second quarter.

What happened next was missed by almost everyone not fortunate enough to be in the Yale Bowl. The Elis shook off their previous missteps and once

again methodically drove the ball down to Harvard's 29-yard line—and then, the broadcast feed disappeared for those watching nationally on ESPNU. While the broadcast cut to commercial, head coach Tony Reno went for it on a gutsy fourth-down play that paid off, as Grooms scrambled and dodged defenders to find JJ Howland '22 open for a touchdown. That move cut the lead to 20–17 at halftime.

Meanwhile, at-home viewers were left in the dark for more than 30 minutes, an outage that the broadcast team eventually chalked up to “power issues in the area.” When the signal returned, early in the sec-

ond half, so did the scoring, with Harvard first extending its lead to 10 and then Yale quickly responding with a bruising touchdown run by Spencer Alston '23. Midway through the fourth quarter, Yale retook the lead, 31–27, on Grooms's third touchdown pass of the game, this time to freshman David Pantelis '25.

It was then the defense's turn to step up in the closing minutes, forcing a punt and then a turnover on downs with just two minutes left, which appeared to put Yale in the driver's seat. Yet Harvard managed to keep the Bulldogs from what would have been a game-ending first down. The Crimson got the ball back with under a minute left, and it turned out to be more than enough time, as it took just 37 seconds of game clock and three complete passes for Harvard quarterback Luke Emge to notch the game-winning score. “We had an opportunity to put the game away,” said Reno after the loss. “And we didn't.”

The loss dropped the Bulldogs to a final record of 5–5 on the season and a fourth-place Ivy League finish, marking the end for a highly successful class that had won two Ivy titles. For the seniors, just being able to compete again meant everything. “We would have given anything to play our senior season,” said John Dean '22, a first-team All-Ivy pick and the team's captain since 2019. “In terms of sacrifice, I don't think there's anything I'd rather be doing right now than being on this team. I would hardly call it a sacrifice.”

In other fall sports, field hockey, men's soccer, and volleyball all posted winning seasons—for volleyball, the 19th consecutive season above .500. But perhaps the single greatest individual achievement of the season came from Kayley DeLay '22. DeLay repeated as the individual champion in cross country at the Ivy Heptagonals, finished second at NCAA Regionals, and then capped her season with a remarkable tenth-place showing at the NCAA Championship in Florida. DeLay, who was named an All-American after her final race, earned the best national finish for a Bulldog in over 15 years.

EVAN FRONDORF '14, a risk analyst in San Francisco, writes frequently about sports for this magazine.

Fall athletes got to play this year. That counts as a win.



CARRINGTON: DAN RENZETTI; DELAY: COURTESY YALE ATHLETICS.



school notes

A supplement to the Yale Alumni Magazine.



PAUL RUDOLPH HALL, ARCHITECTURE

School of Architecture

Deborah Berke, Dean
architecture.yale.edu

A new home for Handsome Dan

Handsome Dan now resides in a brand-new doghouse at the Yale Visitor Center, designed by students Shelby Wright '22MArch and Christine Song '22MArch. The project was built at the Yale School of Architecture by faculty member Tim Newton '07MArch and his team in the fabrication shop out of plywood with custom laser-cut Y and bone-shaped finials and other details. The students also designed a custom pawprint-based Yale shield for Handsome Dan. The design was selected following a competition among current Yale architecture students in spring 2021. The judges included vice president for communications Nate Nickerson, Yale Visitor Center director Nancy Franco, architecture dean Deborah Berke, and architecture associate dean Phil Bernstein. Two runner-up designs were chosen: "Tetris House" by Yuhan Zhang '21MArch, and "Handsome Dàn House" by Yuyi Shen '22MArch and Yuyi Zhou '22MArch. (For a photo, see page 28.)

Alumni win design competition

Yale School of Architecture alumni Katharine

Blackman '20MArch and Jerome Tryon '20MArch have been selected to design a new memorial garden for the campus of Southern New Hampshire University commemorating the collective grief of 2020, following a design competition. The design combines a meditative labyrinth with meditative views and seating, as well as a "solstice stone," cut to align with the summer sun.

School of Art

Kymerly Pinder, Dean
art.yale.edu

Dean joins dialogues across campus and New Haven

Throughout fall 2021—her first semester as dean—Stavros Niarchos Foundation Dean Kymerly Pinder participated in public talks across Yale and New Haven. On a Sunday afternoon in late October, Pinder joined Martha Friedman '03MFA for a talk as part of the Artspace Open Source 2021 Festival. The following weekend, she participated alongside faculty across the university in the concluding roundtable at the annual conference at Yale's MacMillan Center, Yale and Slavery in Historical Perspective. Finally, in November Dean Pinder and another alum, Rina Banerjee

'95MFA, came together for a public virtual conversation on their shared time at Yale in the 1990s as part of the Yale University Art Gallery's exhibition *On the Basis of Art: 150 Years of Women at Yale*.

School launches annual student-curated show

With the spring 2022 semester, the Yale School of Art is initiating an annual student-curated exhibition of work, in which a collective of second-year MFA students propose and facilitate the display of work by graduate students currently enrolled in MFA programs across the northeast.

The inaugural Yale School of Art annual exhibition, to be staged in March 2022, is entitled *No White Walls* and curated by graduate students Salvador Andrade, Zoila Coc-Chang, Miguel Gaydos, athena quispe, Mike Tully, and Amartya De. The exhibition seeks to engage themes of collectivity and challenge the established history of the exhibition space in Western museums and galleries—a history dominated by the white cube formula.

Yale College

Marvin Chun, Dean
yalecollege.yale.edu

Former AACC director passes away

Mary Li Hsu '80, former director of the Asian American Cultural Center and assistant dean in Yale College, died on November 8 after battling neuroendocrine cancer. As an undergraduate, she was an active member of the Asian American Students Association, and after returning to Yale in 1992 to lead the AACC she was known for her strong advocacy for the AACC community. She also taught in Yale College in the spring of 1997. This past June, as the AACC celebrated its 40th anniversary, alumni announced a new endowment fund for the center in Hsu's honor, the Dean Mary

PHOTOS: KIM O'WALLEY

NOTE TO READERS THE YALE ALUMNI MAGAZINE CARRIES THIS SUPPLEMENT IN EVERY ISSUE FOR NEWS FROM YALE'S GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS, YALE COLLEGE, AND THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES. THIS SUPPLEMENT IS NOT WRITTEN BY THE MAGAZINE STAFF BUT PROVIDED BY THE DEANS.

Li Hsu Discretionary Fund, which will support AACC activities and academic offerings in Asian American studies.

Remembering the first dean of Branford College

Richard (Dick) Shank '45WE, '50MEng, Branford College's first residential college dean and later registrar of Yale College, died on November 17, 2021. He graduated as valedictorian from Upper Arlington High School in June 1942 and matriculated at Yale College that summer with the class of '45W. His studies at Yale were interrupted while he served as a lieutenant JG in the US Navy during World War II. At the end of the war, he returned to Yale and graduated in 1948 with a BE in electrical engineering. As an undergraduate, he served as a freshman counselor for three years; and as a longtime Branford fellow, he continued to serve Yale College as chief marshal for Yale Commencement. After his retirement from Yale, he taught math at Hamden Hall.

Divinity School

Gregory E. Sterling, Dean divinity.yale.edu

Dean reappointed to third term

Gregory E. Sterling, the Reverend Henry L. Slack Dean of Yale Divinity School and Lillian Claus Professor of New Testament, has been reappointed dean for a third term, beginning in July 2022. The reappointment recognizes Sterling's outstanding service over the past decade and the promise of continued exceptional leadership in the years ahead, Yale president Peter Salovey said. Salovey cited, among other accomplishments, Sterling's leadership advancing the theological and moral imperative to address inequality and injustice in society, and Sterling's and the Divinity School's success in tripling the number of faculty from underrepresented groups and doubling the number of staff and students. In addition, Salovey hailed Sterling's visionary leadership of a project to construct the Living Village, a student housing complex (tentatively

slated for construction in early 2023) designed to meet the most stringent standard for green-building construction. "Dean Sterling has served Yale Divinity School with exemplary skill and dedication in the past decade," Salovey said. "I thank him for his contributions and look forward to working with him in the years to come."

High-profile lectures highlight Convocation 2021

Lectures by Duke faculty member Will Willimon '71MDiv and Yale sociology professor Philip Gorski highlighted a mostly virtual alumni convocation over several weeks in September and October, bringing thousands to the YDS livestream and YouTube channels. Willimon, professor of the practice of Christian ministry and onetime bishop in the United Methodist Church, gave the Divinity School's prestigious Beecher Lectures on preaching, focusing on the topic "Preachers Dare." Gorski, the Frederick and Laura Goff Professor of Sociology and professor of religious studies at Yale, devoted his YDS Ensign Lecture to the topic of white Christian nationalism, also the subject of his forthcoming

book. The lectures are available on the Divinity School's YouTube page.

David Geffen School of Drama

James Bundy, Dean drama.yale.edu

Back on stage

David Geffen School of Drama and Yale Repertory Theatre has resumed in-person rehearsals and performances. The Geffen School season opened in November with a production of Qui Nguyen's *She Kills Monsters*, designed and performed by professionals in training, and directed by guest artist Adrienne D. Williams. *Manning*, a new play by Benjamin Benne '22MFA, directed by Alex Keegan '22MFA, was presented in December. In May, Keegan will also direct *Affinity*, which she and Rebecca Adelsheim '22MFA have adapted from the novel by Sarah Waters.

Yale Rep has begun rehearsals for *Today is My Birthday* by Susan Soon He Stanton '10MFA,



school notes

A supplement to the Yale Alumni Magazine.

directed by Mina Morita. The play will open the Rep's 2022 season, running January 27–February 19. It will be followed in the spring by *Choir Boy* by Tarell Alvin McCraney '07MFA (Faculty), directed by Christopher D. Betts '22MFA; and *Between Two Knees* by the 1491s, directed by Eric Ting.

Performances are open to the general public. Proof of vaccination must be presented upon arrival and masking is required at all times inside the theater.

School of Engineering & Applied Science

Jeffrey Brock, Dean
seas.yale.edu

How information flows in the brain

Amin Karbasi, associate professor of electrical engineering, and Mehrooz Salehi '19PhD (electrical engineering) won second place at Nokia's Bell Labs Prize ceremony for their work on understanding how information flows in the human brain based on different cognitive tasks. The team says their innovation makes a concrete connection between artificial intelligence and natural intelligence. Karbasi and Salehi used data from more than 700 subjects to develop an algorithm that provides robust, personalized brain maps. The results, they say, could predict individuals' sex, fluid intelligence, and cognitive tasks based on their brain fingerprints.

Creating maps of human cells

Rong Fan, a professor of biomedical engineering and of pathology, will lead the new Yale Tissue Mapping Center (TMC) for Cellular Senescence in Lymphoid Organs. It's part of a broad National Institutes of Health–funded consortium aiming to comprehensively identify and characterize differences in senescent cells, which play roles in normal biological processes and also in chronic diseases of aging such as cancer and neurodegeneration. The TMC is one of eight supported by NIH's Cellular Senescence Network (SenNet), a new initiative of the NIH Common Fund program. It will benefit from a \$6.5 million grant over five years.

Shedding light on how light works

For her work in studying how matter absorbs light, Diana Qiu, assistant professor of mechanical engineering & materials science, won the Packard Fellowship in Science and Engineering. Qiu, a member of the Energy Science Institute on Yale's West Campus, will receive \$875,000 over five years to pursue her research. Qiu's research, which focuses on excitons, could advance the fields of solar energy, quantum computing, and optoelectronics. Created by the absorption of light, excitons are a combination of an electron and a hole, which is a positively charged empty state caused by the absence of an electron. This electron-hole combination carries energy.

School of the Environment

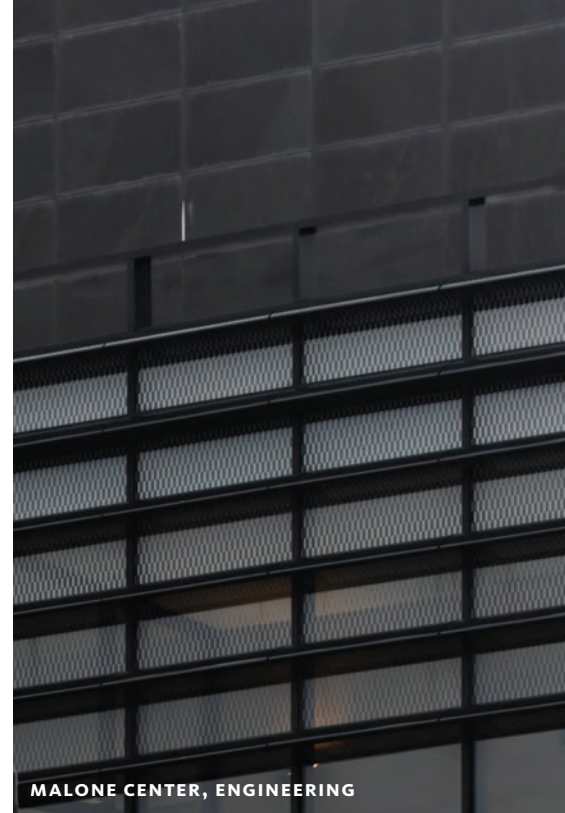
Ingrid C. "Indy" Burke, Dean
environment.yale.edu

Professor wins prestigious Volvo Prize

Paul Anastas, Teresa and H. John Heinz III Professor in the Practice of Chemistry for the Environment, was awarded the 2021 Volvo Environment Prize for his outstanding scientific discoveries within the area of the environment and sustainable development. Anastas, who is known as the "father of green chemistry," is the director of YSE's Center for Green Chemistry and Green Engineering, which seeks practical, innovative solutions to sustainability challenges while simultaneously meeting social, economic, and environmental goals. Anastas has served at the US Environmental Protection Agency and was assistant director for the environment in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy from 1999 to 2004. (For a *Yale Alumni Magazine* report, see page 22.)

Recent grads create soil health guide

Darya Watnick '21MEM and Abbey Warner '21MEM have authored an innovative guide, *Soil Health Policy: Developing Community-Driven State Soil Health Policy and Programs*, which they hope will provide practical advice for people interested in establishing programs to support agricultural producers implementing soil health practices. The duo interviewed



MALONE CENTER, ENGINEERING

dozens of practitioners and other experts in farming, climate adaptation, policymaking, sustainable investment, coalition-building, and related fields. The guide provides support for engaging policymakers, networking, outreach, policy writing, implementation, monitoring for soil-relevant outcomes, and funding this work. The guide was supported by the Regenerative Agriculture Initiative at the Yale Center for Business and the Environment, a student-led effort that aims to influence decision-making to support and invest in regenerative agricultural models.

Faculty of Arts & Sciences

Tamar Gendler, Dean
fas.yale.edu

Leading global scientific inquiry

Three recent achievements demonstrate the diversity of FAS leadership in the sciences. Debra Fischer, Eugene Higgins Professor of Astronomy, has been named director of the National Science Foundation's Division of Astronomical Sciences, where she will lead the NSF's mission to set astrophysics science priorities for researchers across the country. Jennifer Richeson, Philip R. Allen Professor of Psychology, was appointed to the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST), a panel of researchers who advise the White House on science,



technology, education, and innovation. Finally, John Wettlaufer, A. M. Bateman Professor of Geophysics, Mathematics and Physics, served as a co-opted member of the 2021 Nobel Committee for Physics, and in that role, gave the scientific presentation at the announcement of this year's prize winners.

Three FAS faculty named Sterling Professors

The Sterling Professorship is among Yale's most distinguished faculty honors, and three members of the FAS have recently been appointed to the rank. Sharon Hammes-Schiffer, Sterling Professor of Chemistry, is a leader in the field of theoretical chemistry, recognized for her groundbreaking work on chemical and biological reactions. Michael Della Rocca, Sterling Professor of Philosophy, is an authority on Spinoza and on the history of early modern philosophy, rationalism, and contemporary metaphysics, as well as epistemology and the philosophy of action. The work of Gary Tomlinson, Sterling Professor of Music and of Humanities, has extended beyond the study of music to encompass questions about human evolution and the origins of creativity itself.

FAS launches "Meet the Professor" video series

The new "Meet the Professor" video series features members of the FAS telling the stories behind their research. The first installment profiles neuroscientist Damon Clark, whose work on animal perception is helping to unlock

the mysteries of the mind. Videos are posted on the FAS website.

Graduate School of Arts & Sciences

Lynn Cooley, Dean
gsas.yale.edu

Alumni named Wilbur Cross medalists

Dean Lynn Cooley has announced that four alumni will receive the 2022 Wilbur Lucius Cross Medal presented by the Yale Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and the Graduate School Alumni Association:

Virginia Rosa Dominguez '73, '79PhD (social anthropology), for leading scholarship on ethnicity, race, identity, and nationhood and the internationalization of the field of anthropology.

Philip Ewell '01PhD (music), for his distinguished achievement in scholarship, teaching, and public service through his groundbreaking work on race and music theory.

Sarah Tishkoff '96PhD (genetics), for transformative scholarship in the field of human evolutionary genetics through her study of African populations.

Che-Chia Wei '85PhD (electrical engineering), for technological innovation including the miniaturization of integrated circuits, and leadership in the semiconductor industry.

The Wilbur Cross Medal is the highest

honor that Yale Graduate School bestows on its alumni. It was established in 1966 to honor scholars for outstanding achievements resonant with those of Dean Cross during his multifaceted career as academic, professor, and state governor.

Nominees are put forth by their peers as leaders in their respective fields, true innovators, and world-changing thinkers. They are among the best examples of what can be accomplished with a doctoral degree after leaving Yale.

Medalists will be celebrated on October 10, 2022, for a full day of events on campus followed by a gala dinner and award ceremony in the evening.

Law School

Heather K. Gerken, Dean
law.yale.edu

Preparing students to be leaders

This past November, the Law School launched The Joseph C. Tsai Leadership Program, a new initiative that provides access to experts, expands career pathways, and modernizes the legal curriculum for the twenty-first century. The program was created through a partnership between the Law School and a group of alumni who are investing in the next generation of talented leaders, enabling students to chart their own unique course and make a positive impact on society no matter what career path they choose. The Tsai Leadership Program is buttressed by the creation of the Carol and Gene Ludwig Program in Public Sector Leadership and the Michael S. and Alexa B. Chae Initiative in Private Sector Leadership, which provide tailored programming and professional development opportunities for students who want to pursue nontraditional careers and leadership roles in the public and private sectors.

Townsend Professor gives inaugural lecture

In November Professor Nicholas Parrillo '04JD, '12PhD, gave his first lecture as the William K. Townsend Professor of Law, with a talk

school notes

A supplement to the Yale Alumni Magazine.

titled “Does Administrative Regulatory Power Violate the Constitution’s Original Meaning?” Parrillo joined the faculty of Yale Law School in 2008 as an associate professor of law and was named professor of law in 2014. His research and teaching focus on administrative law and government bureaucracy and extend to legal history, remedies, and legislation. He has a secondary appointment as a professor of history at Yale University.

Corporate law expert honored

Roberta Romano ’80JD, Sterling Professor of Law and director of the Yale Law School Center for the Study of Corporate Law, was awarded the 2020 Ronald H. Coase Medal by the American Law and Economics Association (ALEA). Romano’s research has focused on state competition for corporate charters, the political economy of takeover regulation, shareholder litigation, institutional investor activism in corporate governance and the regulation of securities markets, and financial instruments and institutions.

School of Management

Kerwin Charles, Dean
som.yale.edu

Master of advanced management program expands

Yale SOM will expand and strengthen the master of advanced management program by opening it to more global students and instituting additional admissions criteria.

Founded in 2012, the MAM welcomes top MBA graduates from around the world for a year of leadership study at Yale. The program was originally open only to students from schools in the Global Network for Advanced Management. This year, for the first time, Yale will consider applications from students in other top MBA programs. To date, the MAM program has welcomed 544 students from 71 different countries.

The MAM program will be open to applications from all graduates of international MBA programs starting with the third round of admission, which closes on April 12, 2022.

SOM student wins AAUW fellowship

The American Association of University Women awarded Neha Singh ’22MBA with a fellowship for her work contributing to the global advancement of women.

The AAUW fights for equal economic opportunity for women. They advocate for pro-women legislation, work to close the gender pay gap, and strive to overcome gender disparities in education. Each year, the organization awards seven categories of fellowships and grants to exceptional women in the United States. Singh was chosen for her commitment to bettering the world, particularly for women.

Singh is currently pursuing her master’s in business and strategy from Yale SOM. Women’s issues—both in the workplace and outside of it—are important in her work. Singh was one of two Yale students given AAUW fellowships this year. The other is nursing student Yacoba Zwennes ’23. More than 25 Yale affiliates have won a fellowship or grant through the AAUW since 2004.

School of Medicine

Nancy J. Brown, Dean
medicine.yale.edu

Breast cancer specialist to lead Yale Cancer Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital

After an extensive nationwide search, Eric P. Winer ’78, ’83MD, has been appointed the next director of Yale Cancer Center and physician-in-chief of Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale New Haven. A world leader in breast cancer research and treatment, Winer is arriving from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School, and begins his new role on February 1, 2022. He has more than 350 original published manuscripts and a decade of experience as the principal investigator of a National Institutes of Health-funded SPORE in Breast Cancer. Winer is a graduate of both Yale College and Yale School of Medicine. He will work to promote paradigm-changing discoveries and build an unparalleled clinical program that offers seamless multidisciplinary care and clinical

trials to all patients and eliminates disparities in access, care, and outcomes.

Grant funds study of cognitive impairment in Parkinson’s disease

Research teams led by Thomas Biederer, associate professor of neurology (the coordinating lead investigator); Elena Gracheva, associate professor of cellular and molecular physiology and of neuroscience; and Michael Higley, associate professor of neuroscience; have received funding through the Aligning Science Across Parkinson’s ASAP initiative to study cognitive impairments in Parkinson’s patients. The \$9 million grant will promote the group’s work to better understand the brain connectivity changes that underlie the debilitating cognitive impairments caused by Parkinson’s disease. While motor dysfunction is often what leads to a diagnosis of Parkinson’s, cognitive impairments occur in approximately 80 percent of patients. The researchers will focus on how pathology progression impacts the cortex, which is where all critical cognitive functions occur. Because these impairments arise slowly, members of the multidisciplinary team hope to bring together their varying expertise to intervene and restore function in the brain.

School of Music

Robert Blocker, Dean
music.yale.edu

Students perform for live audiences

During the fall 2021 semester, and for the first time since the pandemic began in March 2020, students performed for live audiences limited to students, faculty, and staff from the Yale School of Music and the Yale Institute of Sacred Music. In addition to the school’s Lunchtime Chamber Music and Vista Chamber Music series, the Yale Philharmonia, Yale Opera, and New Music New Haven presented concerts in Woolsey Hall and Sprague Memorial Hall.

The Yale Philharmonia performed three concerts during the first semester and welcomed soloists Christine Lee ’23AD, a cellist; and Carol Jantsch, the school’s faculty tubist. Among the repertoire the orchestra

performed was Wynton Marsalis's newly composed Tuba Concerto (in a preview performance). The Yale Opera performed two fully staged programs, with collaborative piano, of operatic excerpts. The Yale Cellos presented a concert during the fall semester, as did students of faculty guitarist Benjamin Verdery. In November, Pulitzer Prize- and Grammy Award-winning composer Caroline Shaw '07MusM, who studied violin at the School of Music, returned to campus for a performance of her music and to meet with students in the composition seminar.

Concert presentations adhered to the school's and the university's COVID-19 health and safety protocols.

School of Nursing

Ann Kurth, Dean
nursing.yale.edu

Gift honors nursing pioneer

Roger Lee '94 has made a gift of \$5 million to YSN to honor the legacy of his mother, a nursing pioneer. Gayle Lee founded the Cancer Support Team, one of the earliest hospice programs in the country. Gayle Lee's work matches YSN's expertise in this area, as former YSN dean Florence S. Wald brought the first hospice model to the United States in 1974. The gift's blend of endowment and vital current-use funds will support online education, faculty teaching, and research (especially as it relates to palliative care), and the dean's discretionary fund. This is Lee's first gift to YSN and one of the largest Yale College alumni gifts in the school's history.

Study addresses racial inequities in HIV

Professor LaRon Nelson is leading a \$7 million study funded by the National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases at NIH to address disparities in HIV among Black men who have sex with men, by studying the effects of a multi-level intervention to address intersecting social and structural barriers that impede population-level reductions in the rates of new HIV infections. The pilot study launched

this summer, in the same year that marks four decades since HIV/AIDS was first identified.

An insomnia intervention for Black women

With a grant from Women's Health Research at Yale, Associate Professor Soohyun Nam is testing an evidence-based stress-reduction intervention for insomnia that has shown potential for addressing the underlying causes of sleep difficulty in a manner culturally sensitive to the needs of Black women. Nam's approach uses a mindfulness-based therapy for insomnia (MBTI), an eight-week group therapy program in which participants gain strategies to manage stress responses.

School of Public Health

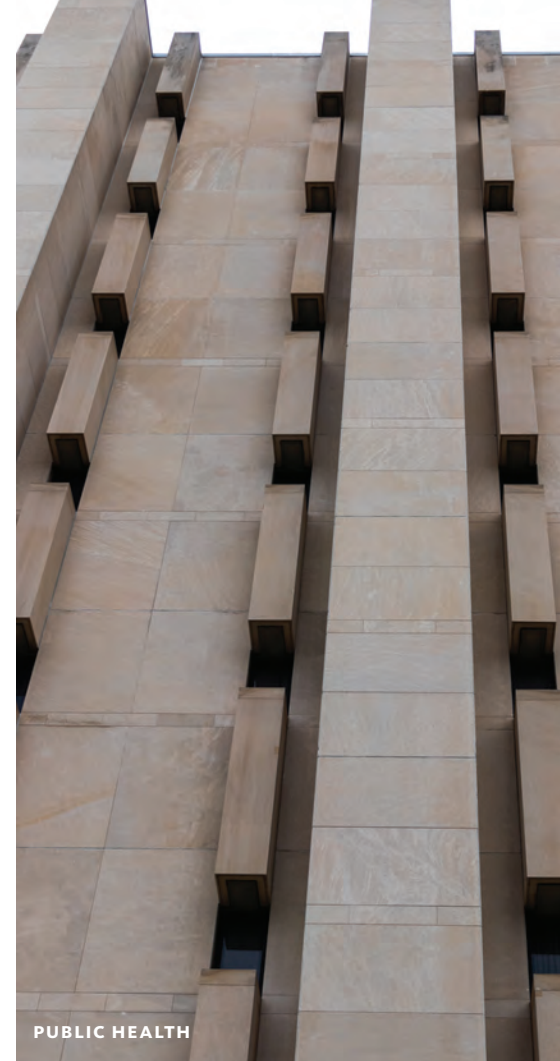
Sten Vermund, Dean
publichealth.yale.edu

Grant funds study of brain tumors

A team of scientists led by researchers at the Yale School of Public Health has received a \$13 million grant to investigate the molecular evolution of lower grade gliomas, slow-growing but malignant brain tumors that primarily affect young adults. One of the most important questions in the field of neuro-oncology is how best to manage and treat lower grade glioma (LGG). To better understand how these tumors evolve over time, the researcher will enroll 500 participants diagnosed with LGG and who have had two or more surgeries for their glioma. "Our study will be the first large-scale and patient-engaged effort to provide a comprehensive genomic characterization of the evolution from primary LGG to recurrence," said the project's lead researcher Elizabeth B. Claus, '88Pbh, '88PhD, '94MD, professor of biostatistics.


FDA authorizes sample pooling for SalivaDirect test

The US Food and Drug Administration authorized the SalivaDirect PCR COVID-19 test created by the Yale School of Public Health for use with pooled saliva samples. Pooled testing allows labs to combine saliva samples



from multiple individuals into a single tube and process the batch as a single test. This approach maintains the clinical sensitivity associated with the real-time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction tests—the gold standard for detecting SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19—and gives labs the ability to process the tests far more quickly. "Adopting frequent testing as a new public health habit will help keep us safe from infection and keep our schools, workplaces, and businesses open," said Anne Wyllie, principal investigator of SalivaDirect.

Online Executive MPH class launches

The Yale School of Public Health welcomed 38 working professionals to campus this semester as it launches its inaugural online Executive MPH program. The part-time program, which takes two years to complete, provides students with a broad foundation in public health and an opportunity to specialize in chosen tracks: health informatics, environmental health sciences, applied analytical methods and epidemiology, and critical topics in public health. Management and leadership skills are also an explicit component of the curriculum. 

last look



Gimme shelter

PHOTOGRAPH BY MILLIE YOSHIDA '19MARCH / GRAY ORGANSCHI ARCHITECTURE

It started, says Peabody director David Skelly, with a composting toilet. In 2014, on his first day as director, he asked about getting one for Horse Island—at 17 acres, the largest of Connecticut’s rugged and beautiful Thimble Islands—because “I knew this place was being horribly underutilized.” Then, in 2019, Skelly partnered with architecture professor Alan Organschi ’88MArch and his students, plus students from the School of the Environment, to create a usable and eco-friendly structure on the island (which Yale has owned since 1972). Using “regenerative” design techniques and limiting the structure’s environmental impact, the team built a research center that would exist off the grid and could be taken apart, moved, and repositioned, like a giant puzzle. Additional amenities include a kitchenette, two micro-dwellings, and a translucent sliding door for blustery days. Potential visitors? Marine biologists, anthropologists, artists. “I have a feeling we’re going to get asked to support things we didn’t imagine,” says Skelly.

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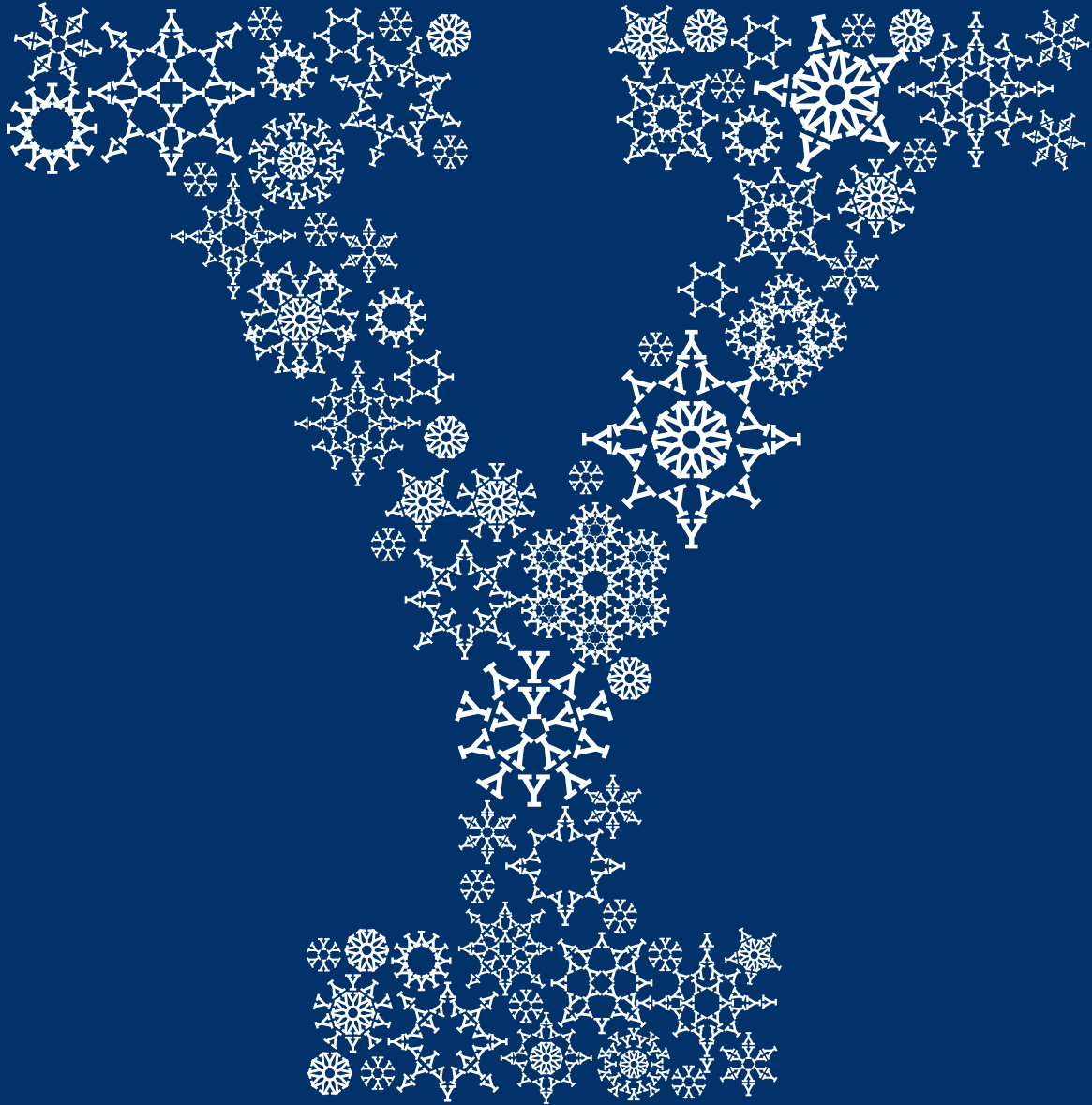


Illustration by Emily Monjaraz '14

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