

CGA FORUM

SEEDS OF GENEROSITY: EVERY GIFT GROWS



Roger Howlett '67

With this issue, we recognize and thank you, our alumni and friends, for your generous support this past year. Your gifts enabled us to attract an excellent crop of students from as far away as California, Iowa, Arizona, and South Carolina, and as nearby as Cobleskill. Your support provided opportunities for students to grow as young professionals by attending the New England Museum Association Annual Meeting. The faculty joined the first-year class at the Mid-Atlantic Association of Museums meeting in Tarrytown, NY and students participated in Wendy Luke's (Luke Weil & Associates) Leadership luncheon. With support from the Lanny Wright Fund, students traveled to Washington, DC, New York City, Wisconsin, Vermont, Montana, and the Native American reservations at Akwesasne and Salamanca to conduct thesis research. Hopefully they sampled the best rib joints along the way in Lanny's memory. And last summer your support of the Rural/Urban

Partnership provided internships at the Newark Museum, The International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, The Philadelphia Museum of Fine Arts, and the Field Museum.

But most importantly, scholarships from the Louis C. Jones, Alice Hemenway and Daniel Mayer Scholarship Funds helped to pay tuition, buy groceries, pay rent, and contribute to other living expenses for CGP students. In-state graduate tuition is now \$10,414 and out-of-state tuition is \$17,018 per year.

We know that there are many reasons that our alumni and friends support our students. Whatever your reason, we want you to know that your scholarship support made the difference this year for two students who could not otherwise afford graduate school. Your generosity also made it possible for students to take on a variety of community service projects, and to focus on their studies without worrying about money. At this time of year when we all reflect with gratitude, please accept our heartfelt thanks for your continued support. Read on to hear what inspires our alumni and friends to give generously time and time again.

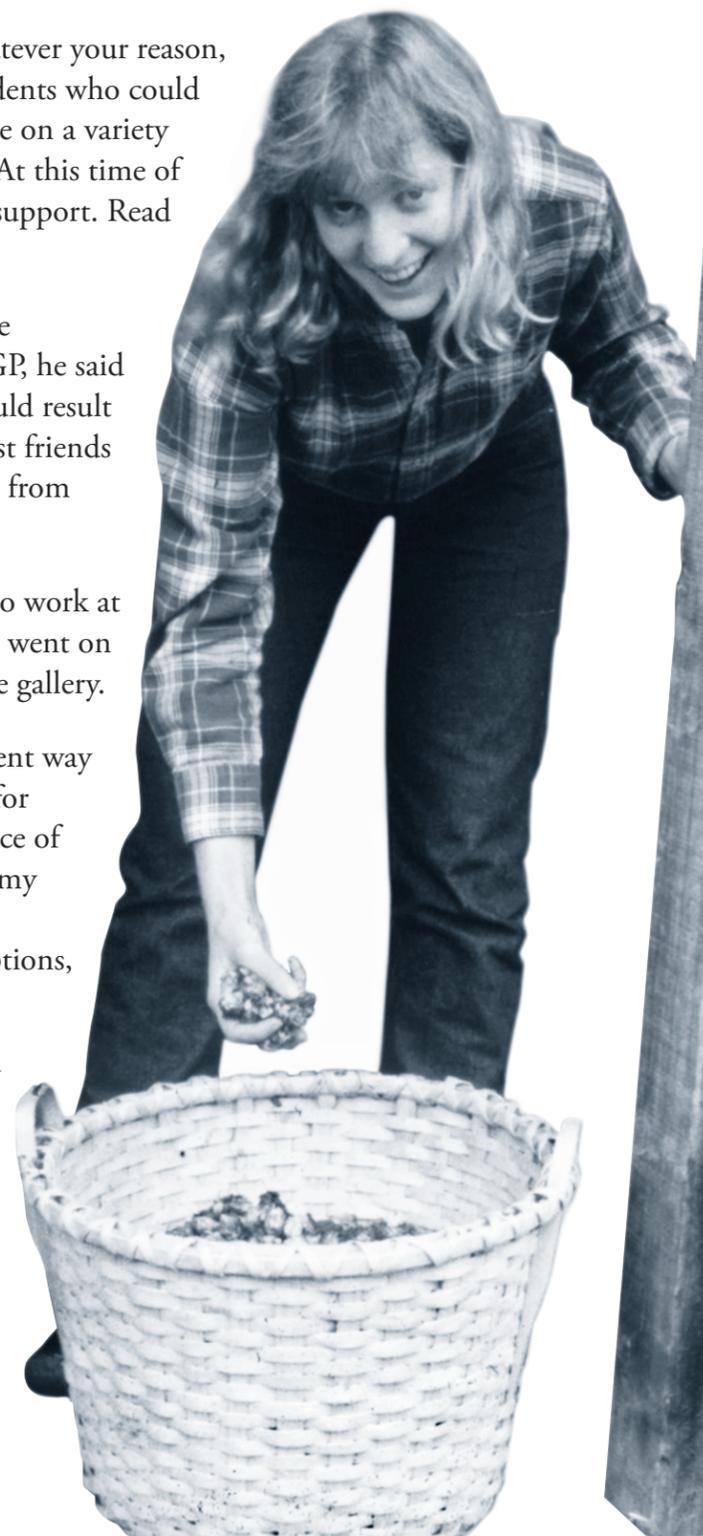
Roger Howlett '67 worked at Childs Gallery in Boston for over forty years, and he credits the Cooperstown Graduate Program with helping him get there. When asked why he gives to CGP, he said that it "gave me a real start in life. I couldn't have predicted how my choice to go to CGP would result in the opportunities that came my way, but those opportunities did come. ... many of my best friends today were members of my class at CGP. I maintain closer friendships with them than people from any other area of my life except my family. Perhaps they are my CGP family."

After graduating from the Program, with the recommendation of Louis C. Jones, Roger went to work at the Yale University Art Gallery. He was offered a job at Childs Gallery in Boston in 1970 and went on to become vice president, partner, and president. He is currently a senior research fellow at the gallery.

Roger feels that the Cooperstown Graduate Program helped him to look at objects in a different way saying, "I learned that library documents, while useful, were only a part of the opportunities for learning about a subject. In particular, I credit Cooperstown for instilling in me the importance of oral history and visiting the site that is the subject of my research. I credit that thinking with my belief that the object should be viewed as a manuscript to be read. I 'read' paintings, prints, drawings, and sculpture all of the time. And the backs of the works: the labels, frames, inscriptions, ancillary bits can tell you more, sometimes, than running to the library."

Most recently Roger and Childs Gallery hosted the first-year students as they traveled to New England at a light supper gathering with alumni. Roger said, "it is a great privilege to meet the next generation of curators and directors, and perhaps I saw the possibility of one or two having a career in an art gallery such as Childs Gallery. 'Giving' is not just giving money, —although that is certainly essential— but also giving time, thoughtful advice, and encouragement to students just embarking on a career that I began, with thoughtful advice and help from others, so many decades ago."

Heartfelt thanks to the parents of our students, and to friends and alumni for their generous and continuing support.



GIVING TO CGP: IT'S PERSONAL

BY LINDSEY MAROLT '14

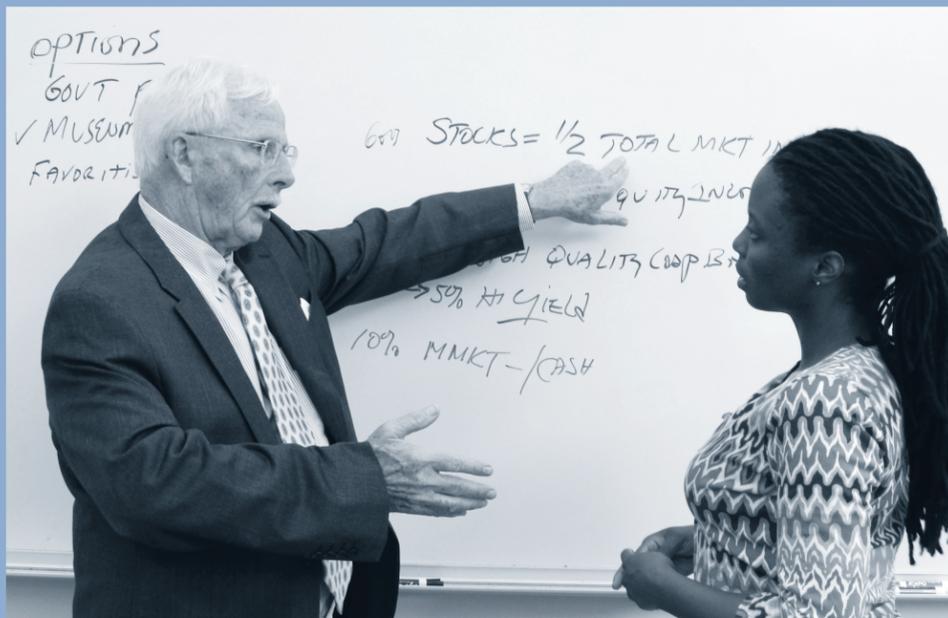
As a guest lecturer on investing, with a Bachelor of Science degree in economics and a certificate in corporate finance, Paul Stimmler knows about money. He knows what makes a good investment and what makes a bad investment, and he has decided that the Cooperstown Graduate Program is a good investment.

Paul grew up in the Philadelphia suburbs and can remember his mother taking him and his siblings to various museums. His favorites were the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Rodin Museum. These early visits instilled in Paul an appreciation for art and museums.

Paul's relationship with CGP began more than a decade ago when he met Gretchen Sullivan Sorin at a focus group during a MAP study of a museum in Delaware. Gretchen used some of Paul's suggestions in the final report to the museum and she recognized the great resource he could be to Cooperstown students. Paul is an ongoing visiting lecturer at the Program on retirement investing for museum professionals, interviewing and resume skills, and human resources. He has helped many students prepare for a job interview.

Paul says he likes what CGP does, how it trains future museum professionals, and especially the passion that the students have for museums. He appreciates the importance of education, saying that it "is so valuable in advancing people." This is a particularly personal issue for Paul, because when he was in college at Villanova University, his parents had some medical issues that made money tight. He was unable to pay completely for the semester and was facing having to leave if he couldn't pull the funds together. Just in time, an anonymous benefactor stepped up and paid the bill so Paul could stay in school. That act of kindness has stayed with him and motivates him to help students today complete their educations. He believes in paying it forward.

The Cooperstown Graduate Program provides a strong foundation for a career in museums and non-profit organizations. Current students benefit from alumni involvement in classes and programs, and indirectly by their commitment to the field, which has contributed to CGP's reputation as the premiere program in museum studies. Please join Paul by contributing to support talented and emerging professionals who will uphold CGP's reputation for years to come.



Each year CGP brings talented professionals to Cooperstown to share their expertise in a variety of topics. Paul Stimmler has been returning each year for more than a decade to teach personal investing, resume skills, and human resource management.



Second-year CGP students worked with Charles Granquist and Judy Clark of the Rochester Brothers Fund Pocantico Conference Center on a mock charette to conceptualize ideas for the future of the center.

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Italic: deceased



JENNA ROBINSON



ANN STEWART-HONICKER

Support from alumni and friends enables students to attend conferences, pay for research travel, and embark on field trips. In Montreal, students learned new ways to experience oral history.

Frank Vagnone and Meredith Sorin Horsford (not shown) of The Historic House Trust of New York City, challenge students to think creatively about innovative programs for historic house museums.

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JENNA ROBINSON

Bruce Buckley Lectureship

Current Balance: \$54,981.45

Named in honor of Dr. Bruce Buckley, a prominent New York state folklorist and dean of the Cooperstown Graduate Program, this lecture brings together students, faculty, alumni, and the Cooperstown community to remember all that Buckley contributed to the field by honoring a folklorist who has made a significant and lasting contribution to fieldwork and the public understanding of folk culture.

Alice Hemenway Fellowship

Current Balance: \$33,226.99

Alice Hemenway '74 was a museum leader committed to education and public service. This award is given to a second-year student who exemplifies dedication to professional standards and practices, service to the museum community, and commitment to linking scholarship, innovative public education, and material culture to deepen and diversify our understanding of Americans past and present. Ashley Jahrling was the 2011/2012 recipient.

Louis C. Jones Fellowship

Current Balance: \$1,222,722.25

Established in 1985, this fellowship honors Dr. Jones' outstanding achievements in the museum profession and his founding of the Cooperstown Graduate Program in 1964. Jones worked as historian, author, folklorist, and director of the New York State Historical Association and The Farmers' Museum. This fellowship provides financial support to students who best exemplify Dr. Jones' commitment to the future of the museum field.

Emily Ann Laird Scholarship

Current Balance: \$8,616

Lori and Keith Laird established this scholarship to honor their daughter who died in September of 2011. The Scholarship will be awarded annually to a second-year student who has overcome a significant challenge.

Daniel D. Mayer Scholarship

Current Balance: \$38,164.91

The Daniel D. Mayer Fund for Interpretation through Exhibits is named for Daniel D. Mayer '73, an exhibition designer with a passion for social, industrial, and agricultural history, who dedicated his professional life to helping history museums interpret their collections. His legacy lives on with students today, through this fellowship, awarded annually to a second-year student. Amanda Manahan was the 2011/2012 recipient.

The Minor Wine Thomas Fund

This Fund is named in honor of the former Chief Curator and Director of the New York State Historical Society and The Farmers' Museum. Minor Wine Thomas was a gifted and inspirational teacher at the Graduate Program who developed a pre-industrial technology course. Last year, the fund purchased an external hard drive to archive digitized CGP photos.

Rural-Urban Partnership

Current Balance: \$236,673.92

The Rural-Urban Partnership recognizes the changing demographics of the nation and enables students to work during their summer internships with diverse, urban communities as well as with the rural communities around Cooperstown. This past year summer stipends were awarded to Catherine Bayles, Ashley Bowden, Tori Eckler, and Jenna Robinson.

John Ben Snow Fellowship

Current Balance: \$67,638.42

CGP students enrich the cultural lives of New Yorkers through their research, exhibitions, and public programs. This endowed scholarship was created through gifts of alumni that were matched at a dollar-for-dollar rate by the John Ben Snow Foundation. The John Ben Snow Fellowship recognizes students who are committed to public service.

Langdon G. Wright Fund

Current Balance: \$52,732.55

Lanny Wright, a beloved faculty member of the Program for more than three decades, loved to drive around the countryside stopping at great rib joints along the way. The Langdon G. Wright Student Professional Development Fund is awarded to students for travel, registration fees, and related expenses needed to attend professional conferences and seminars, or to conduct research for the thesis.



LORI GRACE

Rebecca Ortenberg '13 with Pathfinder Village resident, Alex. Students in Applied Museum Education created programming for a day at The Farmers' Museum.

LEARNING, COLLABORATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

BY KATHRYN (KATIE) BOARDMAN '82
Adjunct Lecturer

The Fall 2012 Applied Museum Education class continued a long tradition of partnership, learning, caring and public service with this year's Pathfinder Village school workshop project. As part of learning more about museum service to diverse audiences, Dr. Joanne Curran presented a class and led discussion in early September about the characteristics and learning styles of people with a variety of cognitive and physical disabilities. (Dr. Curran is the Associate Dean for the Division of Education at SUNY-Oneonta.) This was followed by a visit to the Pathfinder Village School and Residential Community in Edmeston, New York to observe classes, learn more about the work of Pathfinder Village and get to know the students and teachers there.

Pathfinder Village is a friendly community dedicated to serving individuals with Down syndrome. The related Kennedy Willis Center is a premier research and educational organization on Down Syndrome. (For more information, see www.pathfindervillage.org and www.pathfindervillagestories.org.) In collaboration with Pathfinder faculty and The Farmers' Museum staff, CGP students designed, planned, offered and evaluated a free learning experience for Pathfinder students at The Farmers' Museum.

Once again, the project was a highlight of the semester. Pathfinder student and teacher response was enthusiastic and appreciative. The collaboration among Pathfinder, The Farmers' Museum and CGP produced a good learning experience for both Pathfinder and CGP students. The CGP students gained valuable hands-on experience for working with students of many abilities. The community service motivation and the building of new friendships was a rewarding expression of CGP values—a model for other museum education programs. For me as the class instructor, the smiles on all of the faces and the genuine caring of all involved proved the success.

I invite you to see those smiles for yourself by viewing photographs of the CGP Pathfinder Village workshop at the October 11, 2012 posting on the Cooperstown Graduate Program Facebook page. Photographs of the CGP class visit to Pathfinder can be seen at their September 28 Facebook posting: www.facebook.com/CooperstownGraduateProgram?rf=114390405244193



JENNA ROBINSON

Actresses Abigail Wilson '13 and Kahla Woodling '14 lead youngsters through a museum mystery tour at the Fenimore Art Museum's "Night at the Museum."



JENNA ROBINSON

Eliose Beil '75 generously hosted students for a dessert reception in Vermont. Thank you, Eliose, for your treasured gift of hospitality. CGP students travel all over the east coast during the course of the program. If you are interested in hosting a reception please contact Cathy Raddatz.

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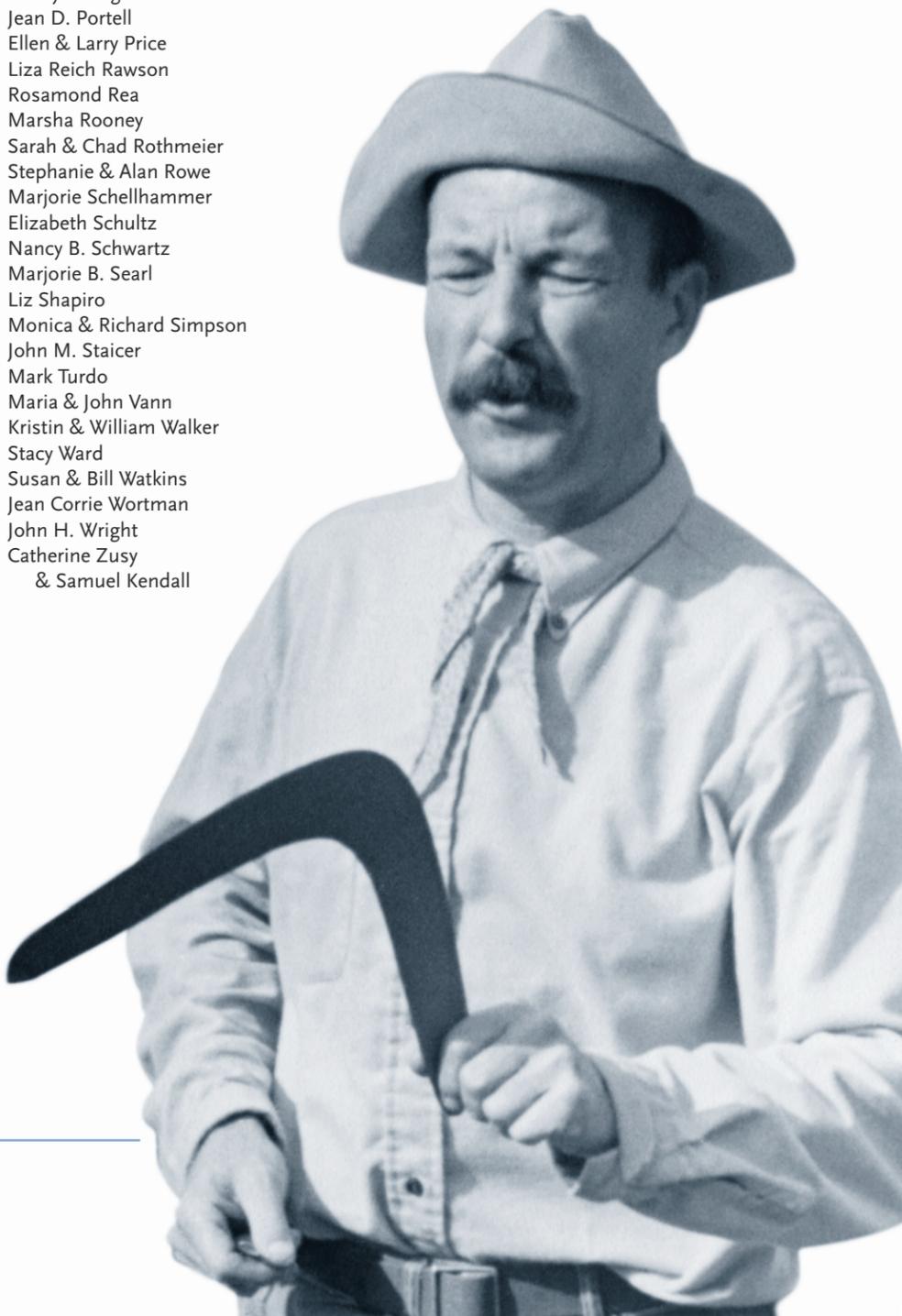
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To learn more, contact Cathy Raddatz at 607-547-2586 or Catherine.Raddatz@oneonta.edu



Olivia Cothren '12 (right) with Historic House Trust Development Director Sheri Durkee at the 2012 Founders Award Dinner.

LIVING PROOF: A RURAL-URBAN PARTNERSHIP SUCCESS STORY

BY OLIVIA COTHREN '12

During the summer of 2011, I was the recipient of a Rural-Urban Partnership award. The Rural-Urban Partnership funds internships that help create programs that benefit the public. This award allowed me to complete an internship with the Historic House Trust of New York City (HHT), a non-profit partner of the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation. HHT supports 23 historic house museums located in all five boroughs of the city. Thanks to the Rural-Urban Partnership Award, I had the liberty to accept an otherwise unpaid position at HHT in Development. I spent the summer writing grants, helping to upgrade the individual and corporate membership programs, getting to know our board members, working the annual gala at Gracie Mansion, and visiting our houses to see the many programs HHT supports in action.

As I returned upstate at the end of August invigorated by a fun, productive summer in the city at an organization that aligned with my professional passions, little did I know that I wouldn't be gone for long! After sustaining my relationship with HHT during my second year at school, I was offered and accepted their new Development Associate position upon graduation. Since returning in July, I've been building on many of the projects I started last summer and developing other initiatives collaboratively with my colleagues. I use both the knowledge I gained at CGP and my experiences from last summer every day on the job.

For me, this award has truly been "the gift that keeps on giving." It created an opportunity that unexpectedly blossomed into the ultimate graduate school goal: a great job! As a proud CGP alum, I'm thrilled that I'll now be able to help expand the pool of potential internships for students by supporting the Rural-Urban Partnership.

“[The Rural-Urban Partnership] created an opportunity that unexpectedly blossomed into the ultimate graduate school goal: a great job!”



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