

IB

THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE
MAGAZINE • FALL 2021

THROUGH THEIR EYES

Unique Visions of Three
Baltimore Photographers

G. Aubrey Proding



A WIDER LENS

In this issue we highlight the artistic visions of three photographers. The snowy street scene on the cover is by the iconic A. Aubrey Bodine, who chronicled our city and its inhabitants for *The Baltimore Sun* and whose daughter **Jennifer Bodine, J.D. '75**, is the keeper of his legacy. The photos of **Sue Tatterson, B.S. '06, M.F.A. '08**, range from tiny details of East Coast abandoned spaces to soaring vistas of the American Southwest. And **Kimberlee Jenkins, B.A. '20**, focuses on vibrant and authentic portraits of her subjects.

Experiencing such different styles and subject matter can help us see the world more broadly. We may begin to observe more closely, think more creatively, even be open to greater possibilities. That's a path to new ideas and new solutions—and that's the magic of art.



It's good to be together again. After three semesters of virtual learning, some of our students and staff have returned to The University of Baltimore campus with protocols such as indoor masking in place to keep us all safe and healthy. (As always, we're continuing to have a robust online presence to provide the flexible learning options our students want and need.)

Even as we transition to more in-person activities, many of us are reflecting on the changes we're seeing in our society. Issues around social justice, health policy and education reform, among others, have opened us to new perspectives and new ideas. In some ways that's allowed us to appreciate and value each other more. In others we can seem to be far apart.

This fall we convened a panel discussion of UBalt-affiliated thought leaders to address how we can better communicate in a time when many topics can be triggering. I was the moderator for their conversation, in which the panelists shared what they are experiencing in their classrooms, in community organizations and in the workplace. In this issue we share excerpts from their inspiring and insight-filled discussion. We're also featuring a video of the entire event online at ubalt.edu/ubmag.

In addition, we are showcasing the work of three wonderful—and very different—photographers with connections to our institution. And in another feature, we talk about how our alumni are navigating career changes and job searches, and the resources that have helped them.

Our world will continue to evolve, and we will continue to adapt and look out for each other. Being a part of our UBalt community is always a reminder that together, we can change the world for the better.

Sincerely,

Kurt L. Schmoke

Kurt L. Schmoke
President, The University of Baltimore




Cover: Snow
Lanvale Street, 1940
photographed by
A. Aubrey Bodine.


Above: An interior by
Sue Tatterson.

Right: Illustration by
Dean Rohrer.

Previous spread: Photos
by Sue Tatterson (left)
and Kimberlee Jenkins
(right).

 **DONOR DOLLARS AT WORK**

The gift icon highlights UBalt programs that are possible thanks to the generosity of UBalt's alumni, friends and community partners.

 **WEB EXTRA**

Don't forget that anytime you see the Web Extra icon, it means we've added related bonus content to the magazine website, ubalt.edu/ubmag.



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A Marvel-ously Expanding Universe

BY TIM PAGGI, M.F.A. '15

When **Chris Ceary, M.S. '17**, wanted to help their young niece to enjoy reading, their mind turned first to a personal passion: comic books. The idea would open a new direction in Ceary's career and also give them an opportunity to help improve diversity and inclusion within the multi-billion dollar comics industry.

While reviewing comic options for young people, Ceary, who was then teaching psychology at Johns Hopkins University, discovered some with surprisingly good mental health representation and shared examples on Twitter. Their posts and credentials caught the eye of Marvel author Jeremy Whitley.

"They always tell you how important networking is, and as a student you're always like okay, sure," Ceary jokes. "But it is! Sometimes you even do it without realizing!"

Whitley was working on the upcoming issue of *Unstoppable Wasp*. A major Marvel property, the *Wasp* comic tackles subjects like bipolar disorder. Whitley asked if Ceary would be willing to join the Marvel team as a consultant.

Ceary was intrigued; they had noticed past portrayals of mental illness in comics that were insensitive and inaccurate. Evil-doers and villains, for example, struggle with afflictions such as schizophrenia or manic depression. Ceary points out that this is a stigma. "Individuals with mental illness are far more likely to be victims of crime than to

commit them," they say. "They're the ones who need protecting." Whitley sent Ceary some scripts. "When reading them, I took out the manual we use to diagnose these disorders and made sure to point out what real symptoms were missing," they explain. And since teenagers were reading the comic, Ceary wanted to make sure it was helpful. They say, "I wanted it to be accurate and character-driven, and not cause harm or be a dangerous misrepresentation. What came out was an absolutely gorgeous final product."

After the series received praise, Ceary was invited to do more collaborations. These included additional work with Whitley as well as new projects under the Marvel umbrella, such as a Young Adult novel that features therapy sessions. "A lot of times in comics and movies, therapy is very dramatic," says Ceary. "Think *Good Will Hunting*, with lots of hugging and tears. But in actuality, it's usually a lot subtler."

Better representation of mental health is just one piece within the broader effort of making comics more equitable, Ceary says. Companies like Marvel are making concerted efforts to include well-written characters of diverse races, genders and sexual orientation. Ceary says this is of great importance for audiences: "We need to see ourselves. In diversity, in mental health, in any part that makes us who we are, it feels good to see yourself in characters."

Currently, Ceary is studying at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, doing research focusing on queer identity and asexuality. But they still spend plenty of time in the comics world, in their work, as a fan and also as a podcaster. Their podcast *Gotham Outsiders*, co-hosted with current UBalt student TJ Finecey, has also featured the University's Batman scholar-in-residence, professor **Steven Leyva, M.F.A. '12**.

Representation matters not only for those in underrepresented groups, notes Ceary, but for individuals who do not identify that way as well. "Research suggests that reading or watching movies about people different from us measurably increases our empathy," they say. "When we watch *Black Panther* or we watch *Captain Marvel*, it's fun, but we also identify with the characters. Then that affects how we see others." **B**

In addition to freelancing for the magazine, Tim Paggi, M.F.A. '15, is database manager and grants administrator at the Enoch Pratt Free Library.



"A lot of times in comics and movies, therapy is very dramatic. Think *Good Will Hunting*, with lots of hugging and tears. But in actuality, it's usually a lot subtler."

CHRIS CEARY



"When you think of the social media landscape we live in—anyone can be a victim."

JENNIFER KEOHANE

The Take Down

BY CHRISTIANNA MCCAUSLAND

The great Roman orator Cicero was known to make inflammatory remarks on the floor of the ancient senate. Egyptians defaced buildings to remove the visages of former pharaohs. America's founding fathers notoriously vilified each other in the press. Character assassination—defined as the deliberate taking down of an adversary's reputation in the eyes of the public—is as old as humankind. Now, a UBalt researcher is studying this tactic as it expands in our social media age.

Jennifer Keohane is a rhetoric scholar, assistant professor in the Klein Family School of Communications Design at UBalt, and director of oral communication courses. Along with three co-founders, Keohane launched the Character Assassination and Reputation Politics Research Lab (CARP) housed at George Mason University. The interdisciplinary lab looks at character assassination in the context of history, teaches students to understand and think critically about it as a strategic communications tool and offers response insights for those under attack.

Keohane says that while character assassination has existed in every era and culture, social media has changed the landscape.

"It used to be that you needed access to a printing press to launch a character attack," she explains. "When you think of the social media landscape we live in, there's been a democratization—anyone can be a victim, anyone can launch an attack and you can punch up or down."

The rapid pace of information means that even the smallest gaffe can snowball much faster than in the past, resulting in what Keohane's colleagues call a "fiasco vortex." While character assassination is rife in politics, it shows up in professional athletics, the entertainment industry, even corporate America. Microsoft founder Bill Gates was targeted due to his divorce, for example. But character assassination is especially difficult on high profile women.

"Fundamentally, we want to believe in the unchanging essence of a person called 'character,' though we have different expectations of what is good character for women versus men," says Keohane.

This difference shows up in the archetypes and labels used in character assassination. Holding women to a standard that idealizes care and compassion makes it harder for them to respond to character assassination and less likely to rebound

from a scandal, whereas men can often resurrect their careers even after an infidelity, for example.

"There's a perception of a 'good' woman as caring, a harmonizer, whereas leadership requirements as they are framed in American society are stereotypically male," says Keohane. "So when women exhibit the necessary character attributes of leadership, like decisiveness, they're seen as unlikeable."

"Feminist scholars call this the double bind," she continues. "If you are a leader, you are labeled bitchy. If you are caring, you are seen as incompetent in leadership."

At CARP, Keohane and her colleagues have gathered over 500 examples of character assassination across history and cultures for use in study, and are launching an online database to expand that collection. They've also designed a textbook on the topic. Keohane says it is hard to imagine a world without character assassination, and that recognizing and understanding the motivation for it can be instructive.

"It is important to become a literate consumer of media so when an attack happens you think critically about it," she says. "It's helpful to think, 'Why did this person launch this attack? What do they hope to achieve? How does this impact my decision-making about this person or situation?'" **B**

Christianna McCausland, a longtime contributor to the magazine, writes from Baltimore.



BRAGS

UBALT IS ON THE "BEST ONLINE PROGRAMS" LIST

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CONSECUTIVE YEARS

As determined by *U.S. News & World Report*, particularly in the category of "Best Online MBA."

THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE MAGAZINE

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“You can’t design what you don’t know about, so it’s vital to listen and be open-minded. That helps us create inspired and inclusive solutions.”

REECE QUIÑONES

Designed to Evolve

BY PAULA NOVASH

Designers shape our world and our view of it. Whether they are presenting a product, a brand or company, or a cause or social message, they are telling a story. And that story has the power to persuade us, connect us and inform us so that we engage, learn and even take action in ways that can change our society.

UBalt alumni are moving the design universe forward. **Reece Quiñones, M.F.A. ’12**, sees design as a positive force in a challenging time. Quiñones, senior vice president and creative director of The Hatcher Group, says that during 2020 she noticed many creatives “wanting to do something for the community. We’re facing large issues that involve our core values. It’s a time to take a good look at ourselves and how we’re displaying those values, or keeping them quiet.”



Reece Quiñones

In her more than 25 years of experience in product development, publishing, web/user-experience, advertising, and marketing, Quiñones has learned the value of remaining curious. “You can’t design what you don’t know about, so it’s vital to listen and be open-minded,” she says. “That helps us create inspired and inclusive solutions.”

Quiñones has also taught design at George Mason University since 2008. “Mentoring is the best way to change the world,” she says. “I tell my students that they have powerful voices they can use to speak up for those who have not been heard. If they are intentional about the ways they want to bring about change—in democracy, education, mental health, public health—they can capture hearts and minds.”



Ned Gonzalez

Business owner **Ned Gonzalez, B.S. ’13, M.A. ’19**, has become an advocate for different voices and individuality in the design world. During his job searches, “I kept hearing that my portfolio was great, but I didn’t feel comfortable in the work environment,” he recalls. “I found that some jobs want to formulate you into something you’re not. I wanted to create a culture and community based on accepting who you are.”

Last year Gonzalez founded the multimedia studio Nerdcore Studio LLC, based in Hampden. The Nerdcore team focuses on graphic and web design, game development, photography, animation and videography services.

“Businesses don’t always know how to tell their story and share what will make us gravitate to them,” says Gonzalez. “We want to help them bring awareness to their core communities in a way that’s authentic.”

It’s important to believe in yourself and your ambitions, he continues. “There were times when I felt like I wasn’t good enough and doubted my capabilities,” he recalls. “During my time at UBalt, I met passionate people with interesting stories and experiences. They have become my biggest supporters and more importantly, my friends. They have given me the strength and confidence to follow my ambitions.” **B**

Paula Novash is managing editor of the magazine.

Partnered for Success

BY PAULA NOVASH

The University of Baltimore provides many opportunities for people with a wide range of talents and experiences to come together and create something new. One excellent example is the synergistic collaboration between students in the Master of Arts in Integrated Design program, part of the Yale Gordon College of Arts and Sciences, and students in the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CEI), part of the Merrick School of Business.

During their capstone course in Publications Design, a team of three or four master’s students partners with a CEI student entrepreneur who has an existing business, or a business idea to develop. The design students are tasked with providing both a style guide with communications and marketing plans, and a process guide that encompasses a longer-term vision of how the entrepreneur’s business can elevate its brand and be competitive.

“I’m always looking for ways to bring practical experience to what I do in the classroom,” says **Megan Rhee, M.F.A. ’08**, director of the M.A. and M.F.A. in Integrated Design programs. “I was hoping to connect our students with an emerging business, and then I saw an item in UBalt’s Daily Digest featuring the CEI.”

Rhee proposed the collaboration to CEI director Henry Mortimer, who was immediately enthusiastic. “Working with the Masters students gives our entrepreneurs access to innovative problem

solving and illustrates the power of collaborating across disciplines,” says Mortimer. “A strength of the CEI is that we provide connections to the business world, and this is a version of that—we’re working with Baltimore’s next generation of marketing and design professionals.”

Rhee and Mortimer, along with professors J.C. Weiss and Stephanie Gibson, facilitate the collaboration process. “From the beginning we want all of the students to be invested, and to develop a relationship of trust,” Rhee says. “Entrepreneurs are accustomed to making all of the decisions, and they need to know that we will respect their business.”

This year the design team of **Jasmine Loyal, M.A. ’21**, Richard Neal and **Nett Smith, M.A. ’21**, worked with Entrepreneurship Fellow Rebecca Thompson. UBalt’s Entrepreneurship Fellows program, thanks to the Philip E. and Carole R. Ratcliffe Foundation, helps student entrepreneurs with funding for their education and other expenses while also supporting their business venture.

Thompson’s business, a do-it-yourself craft subscription service, originally had a different name until the team proposed Crate Craft & Co.—a suggestion Thompson adopted. To prepare additional design and branding elements for the business, the team also researched target audiences and social marketing design and techniques, among other areas.



Notes Smith, “Our team also had a crash course in business development in order to create the process guide, which involved researching the competition and setting specific profit goals.” They add that the semester-long project was an interesting test of the students’ project management skills, as each juggled working on their final portfolios and collaborating remotely. “We dove into the project and managed the tasks and our time super well, despite never meeting in person,” Smith says.

Four different design teams presented their projects at a virtual gathering in May. “The three of us spent many hours developing the slideshow and practicing the script,” Smith recalls. “Presenting virtually had its own set of challenges, but it was a treat to see the other teams’ pitches.”

Ultimately the team of Loyal, Neal and Smith were named winners of the Erin Kvedar Memorial Seminar Award, established in honor of Kvedar by her family and given annually to a seminar project. The panel of judges, made up of outside experts, complimented the team on their branding, use of pattern, color and fonts, functionality and website.

The partnership was a win for the CEI’s Thompson as well. “I enjoyed every part of this collaboration,” she says. “As a startup, you never really know if your concept is clear. I was pleased to see they understood and absolutely nailed it.” Thompson, also a 2021 winner in UBalt’s Rise to the Challenge business pitch competition for Best Existing Business Venture, adds “I would encourage every UBalt entrepreneur to apply for this partnership. It’s such an amazing opportunity.”

CEI Director Mortimer says the competition gives students in both programs real-world experience. “For our entrepreneurs, it’s practice in hiring an agency, and for the design students, it’s practice in pitching to a client,” he explains. “The judges are professionals who evaluate the presentations from both a business and design perspective. The quality of work the students produce is exemplary.”

Smith agrees. “The opportunity to closely collaborate with other designers in the program was very valuable, because I was able to learn from their specialties. This project is great practice for working on a team with an external client.”

For her, says Rhee, the collaboration is a passion project: “Every year I think, let’s never not do this thing.” **B**

Paula Novash is managing editor of the magazine.

DONOR DOLLARS AT WORK

“I hope we’ll commit to fully and finally ending slavery’s abiding legacy of violence, oppression and injustice.”

JAY PERMAN

On Juneteenth

The University of Baltimore honors Juneteenth—the day that commemorates the ending of slavery in the United States. On June 19, 1865, Union soldiers informed the people of Galveston, Texas, that the Civil War was over and all enslaved people were freed. We’ve asked a few members of our community to share their thoughts about this historic day.



Kellye Beathea If you’re Black and you have mixed feelings about Juneteenth (finally) becoming a federal holiday, I get it. While many of our siblings worked REALLY hard to make this day a holiday, it can still feel like we’re being pacified; especially when it feels like it’s taking FOREVER to pass (and strengthen) laws made to protect our voting, civil and overall human rights. Regardless of how you feel, #Juneteenth is a WIN for us. Celebrating Juneteenth is a great first step in actively addressing the historical disparities in our communities. This is an opportunity to continue to learn, connect with one another, and reflect on how we can progress towards an even brighter, Blacker future.

Use Juneteenth to recognize the win AND plan for the victory.

Kellye Beathea, J.D. ’15, attorney and communications/media professional



Jay Perman

The declaration of Juneteenth as a USM and federal holiday helps us confront the pain and indignity that slavery has left behind, reflect on the fight for freedom and justice—then and now—and joyfully celebrate Black history and culture, Black resistance and resilience. Black Americans’ liberation struggle continues, and Juneteenth remains a day of reckoning, a day we rededicate ourselves to the ideals we say are foundational to this nation: equality and opportunity for all.

We’re just starting our work to examine and redress our part in anti-Black racism and systemic inequities that so badly disadvantage people and communities of color. On Juneteenth and throughout the year, I hope we’ll talk with one another about how race shapes our lives. I hope we’ll commit to fully and finally ending slavery’s abiding legacy of violence, oppression and injustice. And I hope that, together, we’ll share in the joy of emancipation.

Jay A. Perman, University System of Maryland Chancellor



TAKING THE LEAD

Juneteenth was adopted as a federal holiday in 2021. The University System of Maryland (USM) added Juneteenth to its academic calendar this year as well. But at UBalt, the Student Government Association (SGA) introduced a resolution, officially adopted by the University to honor the holiday a year earlier, in 2020.

“To have this resolution be successful, and to be part of a university that took the lead in shaping history for USM, made us very happy,” says Randolph Wells (above), SGA Vice President of Student Affairs. “And personally, having UBalt be so receptive and understanding of the heritage of its African American students makes me proud.”

The SGA’s Inclusion Alley project is another way the university is respecting diversity, says Wells.

The space, situated between the Thumel Business Center and the Liberal Arts and Policy Building, features a Pride mural painted by SGA leaders and other features representing ideas of inclusion. A recent addition is a Juneteenth flag.

Wells says seating will be installed soon as well. “This isn’t just a campus stop, but a hangout spot for community members,” Wells explains. “The community response has been so supportive—they love it, and are keeping it nice.”

Wells, who is the community engagement liaison for the Housing Authority of Baltimore City, says that coming to UBalt and taking on leadership roles has been a plus for him. “I’m more confident in myself, more confident as a speaker,” he says. “Who knows what the rest of my future holds?”

Supporting Veterans

A \$2.4 Million Grant from The Bob & Renee Parsons Foundation Benefits Veteran and Active Military Students

BY PAULA NOVASH

Veteran students and students who are active military members are vital—and valued—contributors to The University of Baltimore community. Now a multiyear, \$2.4 million grant from The Bob & Renee Parsons Foundation will provide them with even greater opportunities and support. The grant aims to increase the impact of both The Bob Parsons Veterans Center and The Bob Parsons Veterans Advocacy Clinic at UBalt.

“The transition back into civilian life and getting a college education can be challenging,” says **Bob Parsons, B.S. ’75, D.H.L. ’08**, a Baltimore native and Marine Corps Vietnam War Veteran, and founder and CEO of PXG. “Having specialized support and legal counsel when needed can go a long way in making successful transitions possible.”

UBalt’s Bob Parsons Veterans Center serves more than 300 veteran and military-affiliated students, offering them a place to study, socialize and participate in activities. Mentorship programs help them successfully prepare to reach their full potential in the workforce and their personal lives. The recent grant will support a new full-time staff member—allowing the Center to offer even more academic, career, service and social-based programs.

Through The Bob Parsons Veterans Advocacy Clinic, law students

at the University engage with veterans and learn about the legal difficulties they often encounter after leaving the military. The students provide veteran clients with pro bono representation and learn to advocate for them and impact legislative policy changes that are transforming the way veterans are treated by the legal system.

In 2020, Bob Parsons also established The Bob Parsons Scholarship Fund, the single largest donation to a scholarship program in the history of the University. This recent grant brings Parsons’s total support to UBalt to more than \$9 million since 2013. **B**

ABOUT THE BOB & RENEE PARSONS FOUNDATION

The Bob & Renee Parsons Foundation offers support to non-profit organizations successfully working to empower, educate, nurture and nourish people during what is often the darkest time of their lives. Founded in 2012 by philanthropists and business leaders Bob and Renee Parsons, the Foundation provides hope and life-changing assistance to the country’s most vulnerable populations. The Foundation’s giving is driven by the core belief that all people—regardless of race, religion, roots, economic status, sexual orientation or gender identity—deserve access to quality healthcare, education and a safe place to call home. Visit TBRPF.org to learn more.

Paula Novash is managing editor of the magazine.



“Having specialized support and legal counsel when needed can go a long way in making successful transitions possible.”

BOB PARSONS

Helping the Community Access COVID-19 Vaccines

In late July, a group of UBalt students made a difference for city residents who wanted to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Under the guidance of Tiffany S. Parkman, lecturer in the School of Health and Human Services, the student team of Giuliana Valencia-Banks, Kathryn Foulke, Jack Greenberg, Shatia Johnson, Lateirra Carter, Nikki Garnes, Elaine McLeish, Loren Nelson, Monell Hunt, and Yelango Jamabo organized a free vaccination clinic on campus.

“The project gives students the opportunity to put into practice what we have learned throughout

our human service course work,” says Foulke. “Dr. Parkman originated the idea of a vaccination clinic and introduced us to our UMMS partner. The student group was then responsible for organizing, fundraising, developing community partnerships, promoting the event and finally executing. We are happy to provide this timely event for our campus community. It’s a fantastic opportunity that we, the students, are very grateful to experience.”

The students are all participants in the HSER 470 Senior Seminar, where they work together to complete a shared project that focuses on meeting a community need.

“The project gives students the opportunity to put into practice what we have learned throughout our human service course work.”

KATHRYN FOULKE

Join The University of Baltimore Alumni Book Club!

The Office of Alumni Relations invites you to connect with fellow UBalt alumni, faculty and staff in a virtual community of book lovers. Participants contribute to book discussions and network through a private online forum. Joining is completely free; you just have to have a copy of the book to enjoy.

In its inaugural year, book club picks have included *Just Mercy*, by Bryan Stevenson, *The Vanishing Half*, by Brit Bennett, and *The Midnight Library*, by Matt Haig. Members have the opportunity to vote for each new selection from several suggested options.

Created in partnership with Professional Book Clubs Guru, a book club management service,

this initiative was launched thanks to a grant from Alumni Association-International.



For more information, visit www.pbc.guru/ubalt.

What’s in a Name?

A statement from President Kurt Schmoke

In this issue of the magazine, you may have noticed that we have begun to capitalize “The” in our initial references to “The University of Baltimore,” and also use the acronym “UBalt.”

We’re adopting these changes on the recommendation of a task force organized by the University System of Maryland Board of Regents and our University, to maximize our impact and to distinguish ourselves more specifically from other USM institutions. Many of us like to say that we are “the University of Baltimore, for Baltimore.” This refers to our strengths as an urban institution with a rich background and enormous capabilities in support of the city around us. Similarly, using “UBalt” is a way to stand apart from other universities which use the UB acronym.

The University of Baltimore is strikingly different from even our closest peers. Our pursuits are fueled by an undeniable purpose, and our mission is to transform lives and improve society. We know what we stand for, and why we’re all here. Let’s celebrate it, live it and, when it comes to UBalt, love it.

Alumni Learning Consortium

Looking for new opportunities for engagement and learning? UBalt alumni, students, staff and faculty can view upcoming events, as well as an archive of past events, webinars and other online resources, via the Alumni Learning Consortium (ALC). The ALC offerings cover topics such as professional development, career advancement, history, personal growth and much more.

To explore the ALC, go to alumlc.org/ubalt.

The UBalt community has come together with resiliency and determination to help.

Stronger Together: The Student Emergency Assistance Fund

The Student Emergency Assistance Fund supports the continued academic progress and success of students at The University of Baltimore. Contributions to the Fund make it possible for students experiencing unexpected urgent financial challenges to move forward.

The disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic have been especially difficult for many. The UBalt community has come together with resiliency and determination to help. Together, we have already raised more than \$379,000 for the fund and provided critical assistance to 475 students.

The Student Emergency Assistance Fund has been helping UBalt students in these ways:

36%	housing and basic utilities
18%	needs created by job loss
21%	food, toiletries and medications
16%	student travel home
3%	internet and educational expenses
6%	other student emergency needs

For more information, and to donate to the fund, contact the Office of Advancement and External Relations, 410.837.6133 or email annualgiving@ubalt.edu.

DONOR DOLLARS AT WORK

SUPPORT UBALT STUDENTS WITH AMAZON SMILE

There’s a simple way to benefit UBalt students when you shop through Amazon.com. Visit smile.amazon.com and select “University of Baltimore Foundation” from the list of eligible charities. When you shop through the smile.amazon.com portal, a portion of the sale of items designated as “Eligible for Amazon Smile donation” will be sent to The University of Baltimore Foundation at no cost to you.

Your Amazon Smile donations are combined with our Annual Fund to provide direct financial support to UBalt students. It’s a great way to boost the power of your purchases and contribute to a variety of programs that help students to a brighter future.

Make Your Voice Heard with BeHEARD Baltimore



Baltimore residents who want to share their opinions about important policy issues, breaking news and current events have a platform in BeHEARD Baltimore™.

A citizen engagement initiative of the Schaefer Center for Public Policy at The University of Baltimore College of Public Affairs, BeHEARD Baltimore participants complete brief surveys that address a variety of issues and may help influence public policy in the future.

Members of the BeHeard community receive email notifications about new surveys every few weeks. Surveys can be completed on personal computers, tablets or smartphones, typically in 10 minutes or less. Participants can skip any survey and all responses are kept confidential.

The Baltimore Sun is the media partner for BeHeard Baltimore. Results of the surveys will be compiled by the Schaefer Center and shared with the Sun and other news partners, city leaders and on the UBalt website.

For more information and to sign up, visit beheardbaltimore.ubalt.edu.

BRAGS

45

LAW SCHOOLS WITH THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF RACIAL OR ETHNIC MINORITIES

UBalt’s School of Law was listed by U.S. News & World Report as among the best for diversity.

DAVID GROSSBLATT
• J.D. '97, The University of Baltimore
• Started tech hub Founders Dojo
• Owner of investing group
Giant Leaf LLC
• Proponent of blockchain
technology

The Joy in Possibilities

DAVID GROSSBLATT, J.D. '97

BY PAULA NOVASH

David Grossblatt, J.D. '97, is an entrepreneur, an attorney, an angel investor, an early adopter and enthusiastic supporter of the digital economy, and someone who brings people together, among other things. And what connects Grossblatt's many endeavors is his openness and sense of fun.

"I believe in an abundant environment, more people contributing more ideas," Grossblatt says. "Finding ways to enrich everyone around you creates so much positive karma."

During his career, Grossblatt has founded and nurtured hundreds of successful startups. His investing group, Giant Leaf LLC, supports projects and companies in areas that include technology, art and real estate.

A Baltimore native, he attended Pikesville High School and the University of Maryland before obtaining his law degree at UBalt's School of Law. "My first experience of the internet was in the computer lab across the street from the law school," he recalls.

After graduation, Grossblatt headed West and practiced law in the Bay Area for two years. "I loved law school and didn't much like being a lawyer," he says. He decided to start a company that provided online services. Soon after, he rented a warehouse-like space in San Francisco and invited fellow entrepreneurs to share it rent-free.

"This was before the coffee shop as gathering spot. There were so many people starting out and no one had anywhere to work," Grossblatt recalls of what became the tech hub Founders Dojo. "There were not a lot of rules, and we all learned from each other." Since 2007, hundreds of global companies in software development, advertising and the digital economy have been incubated in the Dojo, and the ideas keep coming.

One—big—idea that captivated Grossblatt almost a decade ago is a decentralized infrastructure for the internet via blockchain technology. "I knew this thing was going to be good," he says. "The current structure of the internet is like a train—you get on and ride where it takes you. Blockchain is more like a car—you control where you want to go."

Blockchain stores data in contained, virtually hack-proof "blocks" that are linked. One of its uses is creating digital ledgers for financial transactions using cryptocurrency, of which perhaps the best known is bitcoin. "From my law studies, I see this technology from a policy and legal perspective. It provides better security, privacy and transparency," Grossblatt says. "It's a much-improved user experience with such potential. A lot of people don't understand it yet, but we're getting there."

He continues, "Here's a related thing I'm in love with." Grossblatt is nurturing the inaugural football program at Oakland, California's 100-year-old Lincoln University. "I've never worked with athletes before, and it's so

much fun. I think of them as entrepreneurs," he explains. "I wanted to do something good to help these kids—most of them come from tough situations. We're helping them set up social networks and teaching them about cryptocurrency and ways to become financially successful after college."

Grossblatt and his wife, Lesley (until recently the chief product officer of San Francisco public media organization KQED), recently moved from California to Carson City, Nevada. Lesley is unschooling (a less structured form of homeschooling dictated by the student's interests) their children, 11 and 13, in a city with a smaller-town feel. "My children are phenomenal people, and my wife is amazing," he says. "We are so supportive and respectful of each other. You can imagine how goofy I can be, too, and she's my best audience."

The future, says Grossblatt, includes global ventures, international family travel and endless possibilities. Recently he and some of his Dojo partners gathered in Las Vegas to discuss a sports and marketing program. "Being with people I love who love me, all the ideas, it lit up the town for us," Grossblatt says. "I want to bring that to other cities around the world."

He continues, "I'm constantly trying to find more clarity, be more purposeful, live the best life for the best reasons. When I look back, I don't think I could have dreamed all this." **3**

Paula Novash is managing editor of the magazine.

"The current structure of the internet is like a train—you get on and ride where it takes you. Blockchain is more like a car—you control where you want to go."



THELEN PHOTOGRAPHY



THROUGH THEIR EYES

UNIQUE VISIONS OF
THREE BALTIMORE
PHOTOGRAPHERS

“He saw things the rest of us don’t see,” says **JENNIFER BODINE, J.D.’75**, of her father, celebrated photographer A. Aubrey Bodine (1906-70). For more than four decades, Bodine documented the stories of people in Baltimore and beyond for *The Baltimore Sun*. And as a celebrated pictorialist, a photographer who composed his works almost like paintings, “he devoted his life to elevating photography to an art form,” Jennifer adds.

BY PAULA NOVASH

A. Aubrey Bodine

Previous page:
Marble Steps

This page, clockwise
from top left:
Fish Market, Fells Point
Broadway, Nickel
Coffee, Baltimore
from Federal Hill

The Bodine archive
is available at
aaubreybodine.com.

“He visualized how he wanted viewers to experience a scene, and used his craft to create that vision,” she continues. “He didn’t take a picture, he made a picture.”

Jennifer is an attorney, stained glass artist and designer of her steel riverside home on Maryland’s Eastern Shore, among many other accomplishments. She’s also the author of five books, curated collections that include *Bodine’s Chesapeake Bay Country*, *Bodine’s City*, *Bodine’s Industry* and *Annapolis*. Her father’s subjects varied widely, from oystermen to city children to cathedrals, and she says he was particularly known for the effects he achieved in a time long before digital photography or Photoshop.

“No one has been able to replicate his skill in the darkroom—it was his happy place,” Jennifer explains. “He could add elements like clouds to a scene using double photographic plates, and might make scratches or pencil marks on a negative or use dyes or tints to change the appearance of a print.”

Bodine was fearless in pursuit of an image, she continues: “Nothing got between him and a photo. He could not swim but was constantly on boats with watermen. He’d climb vertical rails and steel bars and ladders, perch on the tops of buildings to capture a cityscape.”

And, she recalls, “The man never met bad weather he didn’t love. When he was asked, ‘what advice would you give a budding photographer?’ he replied, ‘Go out in the worst weather imaginable.’”

This “learning by doing” philosophy is consistent with Bodine’s own experience. He went to work at age 14, yet “he was lucky,” Jennifer explains. “He went to the *Sun* as a messenger and sat next to the commercial art department. He learned from the photographers, and they quickly recognized his talent.”

Jennifer and her husband of forty-plus years, Richard Orban, have digitized more than 10,000 of her father’s photos, available as licenses and reprints at aaubreybodine.com. She has designated the Baltimore Museum of Industry as the eventual recipient of the comprehensive Bodine archive.

For Jennifer, it is fitting that her father’s photos reside in the city that shaped him, and that he loved. “Bodine traveled extensively for his work, yet his Baltimore photos are special,” she says. “I want people to have access and enjoy the works, so they can appreciate his legacy as an artist and also the way he viewed the world.”





"It's beautiful, what gets left behind," says SUE TATTERSON, B.S. '06, M.F.A. '08, of her photos of abandoned spaces. For almost two decades Tatterson has been exploring empty and decaying buildings and capturing their essence.



"I try and show how busy the places often were. For example, there's a former silk mill in Western Maryland where the employees went on strike and walked away, leaving everything in process," she explains. "And sometimes the spaces are just empty except for small items, like a toothbrush in a prison cell. You can always feel the energy of the people who were there."

A professor at Central Arizona College and author of several books of her photography, Tatterson says that as a child in her native Australia, she enjoyed exploring.

"I always liked to do what I wasn't supposed to be doing," she says with a laugh. Her first camera was a Kodak Instamatic, "the one with the cube flash on top," she recalls.

Tatterson studied photography "in the old school days of the darkroom," she says. "When I saw the first image emerge in that tray of chemicals, I was hooked." She worked as a commercial photographer, but realized it wasn't her passion. At age 34, Tatterson took the opportunity to relocate to America, and says the move reignited her love for her art: "Everything seemed new again."

During her time at UBalt, Tatterson became the graphic designer and photographer for the Schaefer Center for Public Policy and the Merrick School of Business. She also started teaching, as an adjunct professor in UBalt's Klein Family School of Communications Design. Her "Spirits of the Abandoned" series began as her M.F.A. thesis project, and since 2008 has grown to include images from more than 80 locations in many states.

Usually Tatterson takes someone with her when she goes into abandoned spaces, though oftentimes she's alone. "It can be a bit creepy—I've heard sounds that were terrifying and turned out to be a bunch of turkey vultures or some other critter who has made the abandoned space home," she says. "You can feel very vulnerable being alone in these places and I try to convey that in a way that makes the images powerful."

Since Tatterson's move to Arizona in 2013, the spaces she highlights include ghost towns, "which are delightful to photograph," she says. "The sheer size of the West is so different—everything is vast and open." She's recently begun a new series portraying skeletons of saguaro cacti and remains of animals she

finds on her desert hikes. "I had this whole collection of bits and pieces I'd collected, and so I decided to see how they would come together as a still life series," she says.

"The abandoned places I photograph often feel otherworldly. It's hard to describe the feeling they evoke," Tatterson continues. "Some buildings I have photographed have been demolished, and no longer exist except in my photos. Capturing a moment in time in that way is precious."

Clockwise from top left: Steins, Ruby, Still Life, Rt. 66 Trading Posts

Tatterson's photography is available at suetattersonphoto.com.

Clockwise from top left:
Larry, Ciera and Trel,
Yani, Dorian, Tamere
See more of Jenkins’
images at
[kimberleej8.wixsite.
com/jinxphotography](https://kimberleej8.wixsite.com/jinxphotography).

KIMBERLEE JENKINS, B.A. '20, was inspired to create her Rose Garden series, which features members of an African-American dance company, in response to a political advertisement.

“During the 2020 election, a woman created campaign ads that made me very angry,” she recalls. The ads used derelict street scenes that were not located in the areas they were meant to portray. “To me, this was slander and misrepresentation,” Jenkins says. “I grew up in Baltimore, it’s my city and it is important to me.”

Jenkins’ response was to create a more positive, nuanced version of her hometown. “I wanted to show people who represent what the city really looks like,” she explains. The resulting images were featured on a billboard at Baltimore’s Penn Station.

“I loved showing not only the beauty of the dancers, but also their athleticism,” Jenkins says. “People who walked by were encouraging them as we worked. It was a great experience.”

Jenkins’ path as an artist includes a few detours. “In high school I tried photography but I doubted myself,” she recalls. She went into the military after graduation, and while stationed in Arizona, she bought a new camera and taught herself to use it.

“Taking photos again made me so happy that after I was honorably discharged, I decided to reconsider what I wanted to do,” she says. A career evaluation suggested she consider a field like art direction, with different facets. “I have always been attracted to a big umbrella, but I didn’t know that was a thing!” she says. UBalt’s B.A. in Digital Communication was the perfect fit.

“One of my first classes was about the business of being an artist, and it just made sense,” she says. “Of course, I need these skills to help my art flourish.” Jenkins was a social media ambassador for the University as well, covering events and contributing photos.

Jenkins says she especially enjoys portrait photography. “I like to create a spark in someone with fun poses and their favorite music,” she explains. “I love it when someone says, ‘I can’t believe I look like this!’ I want to help people feel confident.”

As Jenkins moves forward, she’s exploring featuring her images on shirts and other items. She says, “I want to show young creatives coming after me that you can try different paths. You don’t have to be just one thing.” **B**

Paula Novash is managing editor of the magazine.



DEPTH OF FIELDS

THRIVING IN AN EVOLVING JOB MARKET

UBalt's Career and Internship Center
contributes to employment success

BY ABIGAIL GREEN, M.A.'01 • ILLUSTRATION BY DEAN ROHRER



The past year and a half brought unprecedented changes to nearly every aspect of our lives, and work is no exception. Brick-and-mortar office locations closed during the COVID-19 pandemic, causing a seismic shift to remote work and a variety of changes in employment opportunities.



BIANCA TABLADA



TROY PRITT



CRYSTAL WAMALWA

Among those whose career searches prospered is **Bianca Tablada, M.S. '20**, who graduated with a degree in applied psychology and was recently hired as the recruitment and human resources (HR) coordinator for KIPP Columbus, a network of public charter schools in Ohio. Her job search mirrored the times: “I did the interview process virtually from Baltimore,” says Tablada. “It opened up so many more opportunities for me than just locally in Maryland.”

Troy Pritt, B.S. '15, MBA '20, is a career changer who worked at Sparrow’s Point Steel Mill for 15 years before getting his undergraduate degree and completing his MBA. In March 2021, Pritt started a new job as HR director at Maryland Vascular Specialists. “The position opened up during COVID. I love it. It’s an amazing organization,” he says.

In November 2020, **Crystal (Santiful) Wamalwa, B.A. '19**, was hired as the outreach success advisor at Pittsburgh Technical College, where she focuses on helping to diversify the school, as well as assisting with the enrollment process for students that are or were in foster care under a program called STRIVE, a federally funded opportunity that covers tuition and fees. She says the position leverages her passion for making education accessible to all.

All of these alumni credit The University of Baltimore Career and Internship Center with helping them get to where they are today.

“Nontraditional students—basically anyone who’s not a typical 18-year-old coming straight from high school—are UBalt’s bread and butter. In fact, nontraditional are the new traditional.”

LAKEISHA MATHEWS

needed. That’s so important to me.”

The Center serves undergraduate and graduate students, and prides itself on understanding that the needs of advanced degree seekers and experienced professionals are different from those of entry-level, traditional students. “Nontraditional students—basically anyone who’s not a typical 18-year-old coming straight from high school—are UBalt’s bread and butter,” says Mathews, who is also president-elect of the National Career Development Association. “In fact, nontraditional are the new traditional.” Mathews has seen more institutions over the last few years moving toward accommodating the needs of these adult learners.

MEETING THE NEEDS OF NONTRADITIONAL STUDENTS

Hearing success stories like these is music to Career Center director Lakeisha Mathews’ ears: “I just get so excited when I hear students talking about it, and knowing that when they leave our office they got what they

However, she adds, enrolling adult learners is one thing, but knowing how to properly serve them requires different resources, such as helping them make connections within the University and beyond.

AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO CAREER DEVELOPMENT

A defining aspect of the Career Center is its active engagement with the entire campus community and integration into academic curricula. “We call that the ‘all hands on deck’ approach,” explains Mathews. “It involves heavily partnering with faculty.” The partnership includes introducing the Center and its services in first-year undergraduate seminars, having junior-level writing students complete a resume, and in capstone courses, having students practice interviewing and other job-related activities.

One of the Center’s signature tools is the UBalt Career Cycle, which asks students to consider what phase of a career search they are in and helps them take the appropriate steps to reach their desired outcomes.

“It requires what we call active engagement in your career, or career management, so that you’re not being a passive bystander in your own development,” says Mathews. She adds that these skills are not typically taught in our culture or in our classrooms, so for many college students, “it’s a new process to have to engage in their own career planning and exploration.”

Parts of the Career Cycle, such as defining professional goals, can be tricky for students, Mathews says. “Most of our students know what industry they want to be in, but they haven’t explored the industry, so they don’t have a job target.” That means learning about the entry-level positions in your preferred field, what the qualifications are, what the average compensation is and what is trending in that field. This is important “particularly at a time like this, where you have some industries that did very well through COVID, and other industries that didn’t do very well,” she says.

Schools across the nation and even around the world have reached out to the University to model the UBalt Career Cycle, which is broken down into four phases: Discover Your Direction, Explore the World of Work, Communicate Your Brand and Create Your Opportunities. For more information about the UBalt Career Cycle, visit ubalt.edu/careercenter.

HOW STUDENTS AND ALUMNI TAP INTO THE ‘HIDDEN JOB MARKET’

Another key part of the Career Center’s mission is to “create synergy between the employment community and alumni,” says Mathews. Through networking events, workshops and internships, alumni and students have many opportunities to forge connections.

“It’s about cultivating that career development in the student and connecting the entire campus in this career process, because career conversations can happen anywhere,” she says.

No one knows this better than Troy Pritt. At age 42, having only ever worked in a factory, he found himself at a crossroads when the Sparrow’s Point Steel Mill closed its doors. The first person in his family to go to college, he enrolled at UBalt to get his B.S. in Business Administration. When he was finishing up his degree, he went on many interviews but couldn’t find a position that felt like a good fit for “what I could bring to the table,” he says.

One of Pritt’s marketing professors invited him to attend an alumni networking event called Dinner With 12 Strangers, coordinated by UBalt’s Office of Alumni Relations and hosted by alum **Phaedra Stewart, MBA '96**. Pritt recalls that after listening to his story, Stewart told him, “With your experience, you should be doing human resources. I’m the VP of HR for LifeBridge Health. I’d like to bring you in for an interview.”

Pritt says he’d never considered a career in HR before he was hired as an employee relations and labor relations consultant at LifeBridge. “I worked there for a number of years, and have stayed in HR and loved it,” he says. He adds that Stewart has been a great friend and mentor who encouraged him to continue on and get his MBA, “and it all happened through the alumni network.”

Mathews says this hidden job market is where most opportunities come from: “UBalt is such a rich environment for this, because most of the students already work, so you never know who’s sitting right next to you.”

COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND BROAD IMPACT

It was also through word-of-mouth from a fellow student that Bianca Tablada found out about the Career Center. While studying at UBalt, she became a graduate assistant for employer relations at the Center, and then the internship and recruitment coordinator. Reaching out to students and letting them know about the Center and its offerings was a big part of her duties. “Nowadays, it’s pretty widely used. More and more students are finding out about it,” she says.

Tablada’s passion project was overseeing the Career Closet, which provides students with professional clothing and accessories donated by alumni at no cost. “That’s the service I’m the proudest of,” she says. Students can also receive coaching about how to dress professionally for different industries.

For her own virtual job search, Tablada says her experience with the Center helped her think on a broader scale. For instance, she used techniques like keywords to find her current position via LinkedIn. “I actually

A FOCUS ON GOALS

Ever since he graduated from college and started using his first Franklin day planner, **Greg Derwart, M.A. '96**, has had a love of strategic planning and honing his focus on what’s important at work and in life. “I’ve been developing my own personal goal-planning process for almost 30 years,” he says.

Friends and colleagues who have benefited from his advice encouraged Derwart, a management expert who has served as an executive-level operations and administration professional in the public and private sectors, to share his knowledge. The result is his recently-published book *The New You: Goal Mapping and Pivoting in a Changing World*.

The book outlines Derwart’s five-step process to clarify your purpose and goals and then create actionable steps to accomplish them. “It’s for anyone looking to improve their situation at any stage of life,” he says. Derwart also emphasizes mindset—he says visualizing one’s ideal future scenario is just as powerful as any to-do list.

“The subconscious mind doesn’t know the differ-

ence between reality and fantasy,” he explains.

Another important part of the process is taking stock and celebrating wins: Derwart and his wife go on a “mini retreat” each year to recognize the things they have accomplished and to look ahead.



In 2020, Derwart had the chance to put his learning to the test. Like many people, he lost his job during the pandemic. “If I hadn’t had my long-term goals and my personal mission statement already clarified, I might have reacted differently,” he says. Instead, he realized he needed to pivot and keep moving forward. Today, he’s a published author and has a new job.

“Everybody’s going to have to face challenges; it’s inevitable,” he says. “If you have this type of plan in place, it makes it easier to lean in and persevere.”

For more about Derwart and *The New You*, visit servantleadergoalmapping.com.

wouldn’t have thought to use LinkedIn if it weren’t for the Center,” she explains.

The impact of the Center goes beyond networking and interview outfits, says Crystal Wamalwa. She worked as social media manager there while she was getting her degree, and created videos, among other projects. Wamalwa credits the Center with teaching her to value herself and her contributions. “I learned very early on that my work has worth,” she says.

Wamalwa believes that her experiences at the Center influenced her when she chose her field. “It is no surprise that I landed in higher education,” she continues. “The Center’s trainings and teachings helped me get to where I am today, and that fuels me to want to make the best path for my own students.”

Baltimore-based writer Abigail Green, M.A. '01, is a regular contributor to the magazine.

THE CHANGING CONVERSATION

COMMUNICATION IN A TIME OF RAPID SOCIAL EVOLUTION

The events of the last year-plus have prompted many of us to question how our society works and how it is changing. We are becoming aware of new perspectives on many issues—social justice, the political climate and education reform, to name just a few. It's more important than ever to be open to different points of view, yet we're seeing people struggling to connect.

In September, we gathered a panel of UBalt-affiliated thought leaders, moderated by University President Kurt Schmoke, for a wide-ranging conversation. We wondered what they are experiencing and how they are helping people communicate more effectively in the classroom, in community organizations, and with friends and family, when so many topics can be difficult to navigate.

Here are a few excerpts from their insightful discussion. To watch the entire event online, visit ubalt.edu/changing-conversation.

Left to right: Kurt Schmoke, Alicia Jones McLeod, Joshua Clark Davis, Ting Zhang, and C. Alan Lyles

WEB EXTRA

PEOPLE ARE CHALLENGED WITH LISTENING.

More than half of the conversation is about you understanding the message that's being given. Having a lot of these dialogues with people that are not necessarily on the same page as I am, where I'm trying to gain their support or partnership, there's a lot more said by the pauses than there are by the words. So listening to how they deliver it, watching their body language, those are all really important portions of understanding the full message, instead of just trying to get to your next point.

The biggest issue right now, I think, is echo chambers. We have fallen into a place where we don't get other points of view. When we stop having conversations with people that think differently from us, and we stop inviting them to the conversation, we get to a place where people are missing the skills to talk to people that don't think like they do. So the number one thing that I ask is, have you met someone today, if you talk to someone today, in your walk of life, whether it was when you got coffee, in a class, or whatever you're doing, that may have been different than you? If so, try to connect. And that's a challenge that I try to take up every day.

Alicia Jones McLeod is the executive director of Challenging Racism, an organization whose focus is to empower and inspire people to disrupt racism one compassionate conversation at a time. She also founded the Maryland Black Chamber of Commerce. She is currently pursuing a UBalt Master of Public Administration degree with a concentration in nonprofit management.

I THINK THE CHALLENGE FOR ME as an historian is really to keep students thinking about the past as deeply relevant to the present. I've been really fortunate to be able to bring in elders from social movements. These guest speakers are very eager to speak to young people about what's going on today.

What's been increasingly apparent to me is that, especially as a white person, racial trauma is something that is very complicated to teach. And it's very important for me to be sensitive to students who have personally experienced that, in terms of things like the images I show. We still need to find ways to talk about some of the worst things that have happened in this country, but we need to be more aware of how they will affect people differently.

Joshua Clark Davis, an associate professor in the Division of Legal, Ethical and Historical Studies, teaches and researches broadly in twentieth-century United States history with a focus on social movements, urban history and African American history. He is an author and contributor to multiple media outlets including The New York Times, CNN, Slate and the PBS News Hour.

TWO THINGS I LEARNED from working from home are, we need to adapt and we all like to have control. We found in our research that working from home is beneficial to most businesses, and there are industry differences, occupation differences, and more importantly, gender differences. I myself am a working mother, and in the last one-and-a-half years I'm homeschooling my child. I hear similar stories from my students. So, it's important to give students choices, flexibility and control of their own pace of learning, and to be understanding and listen. Facing the lockdown and online education, communication with students is particularly important. So I check my email very frequently to tell them I am there with them all the time; I think that helps.

I feel I'm very lucky to teach economics, because every day we open the newspaper, or just watch the news, and everything is related to economics. I asked every student to submit a short assignment using the economic knowledge they learn to apply it to their real life. In the pandemic there are all kinds of demand and supply shifts and externalities. Everybody has a point of view, often unique, including some fresh views from students

with international backgrounds, and it's very interesting; this kind of guided in-class debate is helpful to train critical thinking and motivate students to learn further.

Ting Zhang is an associate professor in the Department of Accounting, Finance, and Economics and an associate director of the Jacob France Institute. Her research interests include entrepreneurship, human capital and workforce development. She has published extensively and her work has been quoted in popular media such as Forbes, Time, and Bloomberg Businessweek.

WE NEED TO LOOK PAST WHAT'S ON THE SURFACE. If you look at me, I have five academic degrees. And I've also lived in a Baltimore City housing project, struggled in school, was raised by a single mom. So when I talk about public service, it's in the context of being a beneficiary of the public health system, being a beneficiary of loans and scholarships, being a beneficiary of the teacher who took me aside and mentored me for two years. I've found that when I can say more about what my journey has been, I have had individual students and others come up to me and say, that helped me because I know it's possible.

Optimism is a choice. So I'm hopeful that what I'm able to share with my students is the arc of an experience, that there will be setbacks and they can be major, there will be things that occur that you are ashamed of having done, or failed at or quit. But if you persist, I think optimism is rewarded.

C. Alan Lyles is a professor in both the School of Health and Human Services and the School of Public and International Affairs. His professional interests focus on pharmaceutical economics and health policy and he has published and lectured extensively in the United States and abroad.

"The biggest issue right now, I think, is echo chambers. We have fallen into a place where we don't get other points of view."

ALICIA JONES MCLEOD

"Especially as a white person, racial trauma is something that is very complicated to teach."

JOSHUA CLARK DAVIS

"Guided in-class debate is helpful to train critical thinking and motivate students to learn further."

TING ZHANG

"Optimism is a choice. So I'm hopeful that what I'm able to share with my students is the arc of an experience."

C. ALAN LYLES

NIKIEA REDMOND

- B.S. '11, The University of Baltimore
- Co-Director and Co-Producer, *Anatomy of Wings*
- Editor and book designer
- Community activist

“We were all influenced by the girls’ willingness to be open and true to themselves. Learning to listen to them changed my life completely.”

The Gift of Wings

NIKIEA REDMOND, B.S. '11

BY PAULA NOVASH

Since she was a child, **Nikiea Redmond, B.S. '11**, has been recording people’s stories. Her mother, who owned a local restaurant, and her aunt are both activists who involved Redmond in projects in her community.

“I worked on newspapers for kids and teens, interviewed people about the history of the neighborhood, helped in a local computer lab,” she recalls. “I wouldn’t be who I am today if I didn’t feel comfortable navigating different personalities.”

Redmond’s ability to connect is an integral part of how she came to direct and produce her acclaimed documentary, *Anatomy of Wings*. Created with co-director and co-producer Kirsten D’Andrea Hollander, the film chronicles the lives of 10 young women from Baltimore’s Dunbar Middle School. The group met in 2008 in a program designed to teach the girls to use video equipment, and over a decade they and their mentors became confidants and supporters of each other’s journeys.

Redmond grew up in East Baltimore and attended Dundalk community college and Towson University before transferring to The University of Baltimore to complete her degree. “I felt seen at UBalt,” she recalls. “It’s a place that encourages people to be creative.” Redmond interned in the president’s office of East Baltimore Development, Inc., where one of her supervisors mentioned that a program for young women was looking

for volunteers. “I thought, I could see myself doing this,” Redmond recalls.

The meetings quickly became more than film classes. “We were having these amazing discussions. We were all influenced by the girls’ willingness to be open and true to themselves,” she adds. “Learning to listen to them changed my life completely.”

Anatomy of Wings is a montage of footage, some filmed by the girls and some of group discussions and gatherings. In later years, the young women and their families welcomed Redmond, D’Andrea Hollander and other mentors to their celebrations and events. The group conversations in the film reflect the reality of growing up in difficult circumstances—sometimes silly and fun, sometimes about hopes and dreams, and sometimes addressing tough topics such as teenage pregnancy and losing family members.

In many ways “The girls were living adult lives with a child’s mind in a child’s body,” says Redmond. Barely out of her teens herself when the group formed, Redmond was at times mentor, sister and role model. “I wanted to be there for them, have it be about their story, not my story,” she continues. “And allowing them to be themselves in the moment, and not always having a solution, really let me check in with myself. I realized I need this too.”

One compelling section of the film takes place on a retreat, when the girls were close to high school graduation. Some of them clearly struggle to communicate their frustrations and fears about moving forward. Redmond says it was

difficult when she couldn’t help a girl achieve all of her goals. “We want the best for people we love, and I had to accept that I could not always take them where they wanted to go,” she says. “That part still doesn’t sit well with me.”

Yet, she continues, “Everyone graduated from high school and now they are women in their twenties and thirties. When I watch them raise children, work, see how they manage conversation well, step up boldly and share their stories at film festivals, I know all of them are doing well.”

With *Anatomy of Wings* released, Redmond is looking to future projects that include a documentary exploring her grandmother’s story. She also brings book projects to life as an editor and designer. As mother to one-year-old son Ashton, Redmond says “I’m looking at the whole journey, and what my next thing should be. I’d like to be a resource for people in publishing, and also for people navigating film festivals, helping them to get their creative work out into the world.”

Anatomy of Wings will be featured in this fall’s American Black Film Festival and the team is working on streaming and distribution deals. There’s also talk of a podcast with the young women. Says Redmond, “We’re a family—the need for what we have together does not go away.”

One of the lessons of *Wings*, she says, is the incalculable value of allowing people the space to thrive in their own ways. “If we all were heard and seen for who we are,” she says, “what could we be capable of?” **B**

Paula Novash is managing editor of the magazine.



CHRIS MYERS

LaFontaine E. Oliver

- MBA '13, The University of Baltimore
- President and general manager at WYPR
- Announcer at the Morgan State University station, WEAA
- DJ at the college radio station at the University of Miami

The Power of Voice

LaFontaine E. Oliver, MBA '13

BY CHRISTIANNA MCCAUSLAND

LaFontaine Oliver, MBA '13, has a voice for radio. Maybe he picked it up from his father, who worked at the heritage African-American station WOOK in Washington, D.C. Oliver cut his own teeth working in college radio at the University of Miami, which helped pay his way through undergraduate school, before starting his career in commercial radio. Oliver has done it all, from producing to hosting. In July 2019, he became president and general manager at WYPR, Baltimore's local NPR affiliate.

"I'm a big believer in the power of voice," he explains, "and you see that now not just in radio but in the Renaissance of audio—the theater of the mind. You can connect in a visceral way that's different from when you give people visuals. There's a closeness, an intimacy, a connection that can be experienced as an individual or a group, like a couple or a family driving in the car."

Oliver has a vocal presence, but he always leaned toward behind-the-scenes jobs in management. Knowing an MBA would help on that path, he took a job at the Morgan State University station, WEAA, while pursuing his graduate degree at UBalt. He finished his coursework online when an opportunity arose to work at WMFE in Orlando, Florida. There, he oversaw

initiatives to expand the station's newsroom and community engagement, efforts that pushed the station's listenership to all-time highs. A death in the family reset Oliver's priorities and, after six years in Florida, he moved his family back to Baltimore to be nearer to relatives.

When he began at WYPR, his primary goal was to be a good listener. "I set out on my 'listening tour' with the staff, the board of directors, community stakeholders," he says. "I wanted to hear where we excelled, where we needed growth, how we could improve. I knew it would be important to have that insight

"In times of crisis, people flock to public media. The pandemic drove people to us who wanted reliable, well-sourced information without hype or hysteria."

inform our long-term strategic planning. To build for success you need to develop a plan that's yours—not your predecessor's, not shooting from the hip—and that belongs to everyone."

With a wry laugh, Oliver notes that while he got to the listening part, the planning stage was cut off by the pandemic. Suddenly he was in a city he hadn't lived in for six years, developing an emergency preparedness plan during a global health crisis, in a contentious time of local and national elections and social unrest. His plans included how to maintain breaking news coverage and high-quality content with all his staff working from home.

Despite the challenges, public radio thrived during the pandemic. While corporate sponsorship took a nosedive, leaving a \$500,000 hole in the budget, individual donors stepped up. In its last fiscal year, WYPR brought in \$3.5 million from individual gifts. Listenership rose as well.


"In times of crisis, people flock to public media," says Oliver. "The pandemic drove people to us who wanted reliable, well-sourced information without hype or hysteria."

Oliver notes that in an era of flagging print news media, public radio fills a local information void. During the pandemic, WYPR embraced its role as first informer, upping local coverage

and launching the popular *Daily Dose* podcast, a roundup of the news and original reporting related to the state's COVID-19 response. This summer the station received eight Chesapeake Associated Press Broadcasters Association awards and two regional Edward R. Murrow awards.

"I champion our role supporting local news journalism and local news journalists," he says. "I want to look at how I can double my newsroom and then double it again. That is what the community requires of us."

WYPR can now look to its future. Oliver is orchestrating the station's acquisition of Towson University's WTMD and looking at ways to strengthen WYPR's philanthropy and community engagement. He is interested in digital conversion and emerging platforms, untethering WYPR's content from the exclusive medium of radio. Yet he believes radio itself is a mainstay of the media landscape.

"Free, over-the-air options are important purely from an access point of view," he says. "There's a lasting utility to radio broadcasting that's been counted out so many times, but radio is resilient." 

Christianna McCausland, a longtime contributor to the magazine, writes from Baltimore.



CHRIS MYERS

CLASS NOTES*

*Class notes featured here were received from June 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021.

1970s

Stuart M. Goldberg, B.A. '70, J.D. '74, is the chairperson for the Stratford University Professional Advisory Committee, as well as chair of the Stratford Alumni Project which is working to establish an alumni association and an alumni relations office for the university. He also serves as a foundation trustee for the Confrérie de la Chaîne des Rôtisseurs Foundation in the United States.

Poet and author **Neil M. Noble, B.A. '72**, self-published a book of 45 of his best poems entitled *Moods of a Lake and Other Selected Poems* in 2018. It was reprinted in 2020.

Smithey Law Group LLC appointed **Barnett Q. Brooks, J.D. '75**, as of counsel attorney with the firm in August 2020.

Janet T. Coupland, B.A. '78, received the 2020 Cape May MAC (Museums+Arts+Culture) Honor

Award in November 2020 for her volunteer role as curator of the retrospective exhibit “50 Years of MAC.”

Glenn L. Klavans, J.D. '78, was appointed administrative judge for the Anne Arundel County (Maryland) court in January.

John M. Riley, B.S. '79, joined Ankura, a global business and advisory expert services firm, in July 2020 as senior managing director.

1980s

Nina K. Yudell, B.S. '81, MBA '82, was elected to serve as the chair of The University of Baltimore Foundation, Inc., effective July 1, succeeding fellow alumnus, **R. Thomas Crawford, MBA '91**, who had held the chair since 2017.

Lisa A. Vronch, B.S. '82, received a gubernatorial appointment as parole commissioner to the Maryland Parole Commission in December 2019.



For the Hyatts, UBalt is a family tradition. President Kurt L. Schmoke recently met with Lou Hyatt, who took business classes at the University in the late 1940s and founded Hyatt Commercial, the real estate brokerage firm celebrating its 60th anniversary this year. Joining them are Lou’s son **Alan J. Hyatt, J.D. '78**, and grandson **Steven D. Hyatt, J.D. '16**, at the Severn Bank Building in Annapolis. The building is home to Hyatt and Weber, P.A., the law firm founded by Alan over 40 years ago, where Alan and Steven both practice.

Two books by author **Carole Boston Weatherford, M.A. '82**, won American Library Association Youth Media Awards in January. *R-E-S-P-E-C-T: Aretha Franklin, the Queen of Soul* received the Coretta Scott King Illustrator Book award. *BOX: Henry Brown Mails Himself to Freedom* was named as one of five Newbery Honor Books.

Linda S. Woolf, B.A. '82, J.D. '85, was named a fellow of the American Bar Foundation in September 2020.

Julius Green, B.S. '83, MBA '89, joined the National Philanthropic Trust as a member of the board of trustees in November 2020.

Stephen W. Lafferty, J.D. '83, was nominated by Baltimore County Executive Johnny Olszewski to serve as the director of the Department of Planning for Baltimore County in January.

Douglas E. Roorbach, M.A. '83, retired after serving as owner, editor and publisher of Grant County, Indiana’s weekly newspaper, *The News Herald*. He sold the business in April 2020.

Mark E. Singleton, B.S. '83, was named chief financial officer and head of industry solutions at LL Global in June 2020.

Baltimore Center Stage appointed **Sandy Liotta, MBA '84**, as the new president of their board of trustees in July 2020.

Career coach **David J. Smith, J.D. '84**, was interviewed on *The TODAY Show* in August 2020 and provided tips on working from home.

Marquis Who’s Who honored **Edith C. Amobi-Agbaza, B.A. '85, M.A. '87**, in December 2020 by presenting her with the Albert Nelson Marquis

Lifetime Achievement Award for her achievements and leadership in the field of social work.

William D. Morse, J.D. '86, marked 30 years of service in March with Shore United Bank. He currently serves as the executive vice president and legal counsel for Shore United, and general counsel of Shore Bancshares, Inc.

Denise L. P. Fritsche, B.S. '87, joined The Hoffman Group, a full-service accounting and consulting firm, as a manager in July 2020.

Jeffrey S. Getty, J.D. '87, was named administrative judge for Allegany County (Maryland) and the Fourth Judicial Circuit, effective August 2020.

Fred S. Hecker, J.D. '87, was appointed in January as administrative judge for the Fifth Judicial Circuit, which includes Maryland’s Anne Arundel, Carroll and Howard Counties.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond appointed **William J. McCarthy Jr., J.D. '87, LL.M. '92**, executive director of the Catholic Charities of Baltimore, to the Baltimore office’s board of directors of the Federal Reserve System in June 2020.

Lucy Motsay Rutishauser, MBA '87, was named as one of *The Baltimore Sun*’s 25 Women to Watch 2020. She is the chief financial officer of Sinclair Broadcast Group and played a pivotal role in the company’s 2019 acquisition of 21 Regional Sports Networks and Fox College Sports from Disney.

The Kennedy Krieger Institute promoted **Jacqueline D. Stone, M.P.A. '87**, to a new senior leadership position, chief clinical officer, in September 2020.

The Mid-Shore Community Foundation in Easton, Maryland, welcomed **Kevin B. Cashen, MBA '88**, as a member of its board of directors in June 2020.

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Gina M. Smith, B.S. '89, is the deputy director for Gaming Compliance with the Virginia Lottery as of June 2020. She was previously with the Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency.

1990s

Joann Petillo, MBA '90, joined HGA Architects and Engineers in June 2020 as associate vice president in business development in the Alexandria, Virginia and Washington, DC offices.

Heather L. Price, J.D. '91, was appointed by Governor Larry Hogan to the Caroline County (Maryland) District Court in January.

Leonard B. Rus, M.S. '91, was named in September 2020 as managing partner of Gross, Mendelsohn & Associates, P.A., a certified public accountant, wealth advisory and technology consulting firm with offices in Maryland and Virginia.

Lesley A. Davis, J.D. '92, was appointed executive vice president of The Mississippi Center for Public Policy in January.

John R. Tribble, MBA '93, was promoted to the newly-created role of vice president, customer relationship and business development, with Church Mutual Insurance Company in January.

Shelly L. Brown, J.D. '94, was appointed to the board of 211 Maryland in October 2020. This nonprofit organization serves as a statewide resource to connect citizens to health and human resources.

The Arc Northern Chesapeake Region elected **Kelly A. Koerner, J.D. '94**, to its foundation board of directors in August 2020.

Scott Burger, B.S. '95, chief executive officer of Class Brands, participated in the invitation-only

Jeffries 2020 Retail Summit last September as a panelist for a session entitled “The Sleep Economy in A Post-COVID World.”

Daniel P. Vavonese, J.D. '95, was appointed as deputy commissioner for Trademark Operations at the United States Patent and Trademark Office in January.

Paul Lurz, B.A. '96, served as incident commander for Baltimore County’s COVID-19 response from April 2020 through April 2021.

John Godshalk, MBA '97, joined NDA Partners in December 2020 as an expert consultant. He is a former reviewer and investigator in the FDA Division of Manufacturing and Production Quality in the Center for Biologics Evaluations and Research.

Nichols College in Massachusetts named **Glenn M. Sulmasy, J.D. '97**, as its eighth president, effective July 1.

David M. Connelly, J.D. '98, joined Balch & Bingham’s Washington, DC office in January as partner in the energy practice.

Claude de Vastey-Jones, J.D. '98, joined the board of directors for Heritage Housing Partners Corp., which works to promote and provide affordable housing in Howard County, Maryland.

Neil E. Duke, J.D. '98, joined the Johns Hopkins Health System Legal Department in September 2020 as the practice group leader and chief legal counsel for employee affairs and accessibility coordination.

Stephanie A. LaMonaca, J.D. '98, was promoted in March to associate dean of students at University of Redlands in California.

Byron S. Bereano, J.D. '99, was appointed in January by Maryland Governor Larry Hogan to the Prince George’s County District Court.

Render Networks, an innovative network management construction platform, appointed **Lori L. Sherwood, J.D. '99**, director of Commercial & Market Development in July 2020.

2000s

Michael G. Himmel, MBA '00, joined Member Business Financial Services (MBFS) as a credit union relationship manager in May.

Medical device maker Ambu Inc. selected **Kellee Fitzsimmons, M.S. '01**, as their tax director in July 2020. She directs Ambu’s efforts to ensure compliance with tax laws as well as monitor and respond to current and impending changes to tax regulations.

Rebecca N. Cordero, J.D. '02, Assistant State’s Attorney for Calvert County (Maryland), received the 2020 Respect for Law Award from the Optimist Club of Calvert County.

The Montgomery County (Maryland) Council appointed **Valerie L. Ervin, M.P.A. '02**, to the new Commission on Redistricting in January.

John S. Butler, B.A. '03, was named to the First Responder Center for Excellence board of directors in April. He has been the fire chief for the Fairfax County (Virginia) Fire and Rescue Department since 2018.

John A. Carpenter Jr., J.D. '03, was elected partner at the Baltimore firm of Rosenberg Martin Greenberg, LLP in September 2020.

Sara L. Cook, MBA '03, was named vice president for academics at Viterbo University in La Crosse, Wisconsin in January.

James F. Elliott, J.D. '03, was named State’s Attorney of Allegany County (Maryland) in February.

William D. Finegan, MBA '03, was appointed executive vice president, North America, in May 2020 for Immerse virtual reality software company.

Luisella Perri, J.D. '03, joined Holland & Knight in April as partner at the firm’s Washington, DC office. She was also named a 2021 Best Lawyer in America in the practice areas of public finance law and tax law.

Geneau M. Thames, J.D. '03, assistant vice president, general counsel and secretary at Harford Mutual Insurance Group, was elected in March to join the Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel (FDCC). The FDCC is an international, professional trade associated comprised of leaders in the legal community who have achieved professional distinction in specific industries.

Adam D. Baker, J.D. '05, was elected partner in September 2020 at the Baltimore law firm of Rosenberg Martin Greenberg, LLP.

Jennifer L. McNulty, J.D. '05, was named associate justice of the Barnstable Juvenile Court in Massachusetts in September 2019.

Christopher W. Adams, J.D. '06, was promoted to partner at Squire Patton Boggs in February.

Erik S. Atas, J.D. '06, was appointed by Governor Larry Hogan in December 2020 as associate judge for the Baltimore City Circuit Court.

C. Pete Gutwald, M.P.A. '06, was named in January to serve as director of the Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections for Baltimore County.

Neil B. Phillips, MBA '06, was promoted to senior project manager in the construction department of St. John Properties, Inc. in September 2020.

Comcast named **Christopher G. Rouser, B.S. '06**, regional vice president of Human Resources for the Keystone Region in July 2020.

David J. Weishaus, J.D. '07, assumed management of Tunie's Market, an independent grocery store and community staple, in Coral Springs, Florida, in 2020.

William R. Wells, M.P.A. '07, was appointed deputy director of the Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Homeless Services in May.

Kemp W. Hammond, J.D. '08, was appointed by Governor Larry Hogan in November 2020 to the District Court for Anne Arundel County (Maryland).

John F. Kreiner B.S. '08, joined basys, llc, a Baltimore area software company, as a vice president of engineering in March.

Maryland Institute College of Art appointed **Ellen Lupton, D.C.D. '08**, as the inaugural William O. Steinmetz '50 and Betty Cooke '46 Chair in Design, an endowed faculty position, beginning with the 2020-2021 academic year.

Jason F. Weintraub, J.D. '08, joined the governmental relations team at Gordon Feinblatt as counsel in November 2020.

Lydia S. Hu, J.D. '09, joined FOX Business Network in February 2021 as a New York-based correspondent.

Ajaye S. Pope, M.P.A. '09, MBA '15, was named to Baltimore Business Journal's 40 Under 40 for 2020.

Brian Saval, B.S. '09, of Saval Foods, was named to Baltimore Business Journal's 40 Under 40 for 2020.

University of Baltimore professor, best-selling author and activist **D. Watkins, B.A. '09, M.F.A. '14**, signed with More/Medavoy Management in June 2020.

2010s

Leah C. Dempsey, J.D. '10, vice president and senior counsel of federal advocacy with ACA International, an association of credit and collection professionals, was recognized as a top lobbyist in December 2020 by *The Hill* newspaper.

Lee D. Dunbar, B.A. '10, was promoted to major in November 2020 and assumed the position of chief of the services and support bureau for the Harford County (Maryland) Sheriff's Office.

Henry L. Greenidge, J.D. '10, a transportation policy expert, served as a 2020-2021 Fellow-in-Residence with the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at New York University.

Myshala E. Middleton, J.D. '10, was appointed associate judge for the Baltimore City Circuit Court in December 2020.

Jesse Pulliam, B.A. '10, M.A. '12, and his wife welcomed a daughter to their family this year.

Harry Spikes II, M.P.A. '10, was named executive director of Bon Secours Community Works in September 2020. He previously served as district director for the late United States Congressman Elijah E. Cummings.

JDKatz P.C. welcomed **Cailin J. Talbert, J.D. '10**, as a senior associate in September 2020. Her professional work focuses on estates and trusts, wills and probates, and tax matters.

Cassaday & Company, Inc. hired **Benjamin Dorsey IV, M.S. '11**, as director of tax services in June 2020.

Babak Monajemi, J.D. '11, was elected a shareholder of the law firm Polsinelli in Washington, DC in November 2020.

Heather Young Scheicher, B.S. '11, and her husband Dean, welcomed a daughter in September 2020.

The board of directors of the Eastern Panhandle Regional Planning and Development Council in West Virginia announced the appointment of **Rachel C. Snavely, J.D. '11**, to the role of executive director. She previously served as the Berkeley County Grants Administrator.

Courtney Trang, B.S. '11, M.S. '15, assistant director of Alumni Relations at The University of Baltimore, and her husband, Tony, welcomed their son Oliver on March 19.

Alan Tsao, B.S. '11, and Sonya Tsao, B.S. '11, M.S. '13, J.D. '17, welcomed a baby boy this year.

Deddles Donuts, a business owned and operated by **Robin Holmes, B.A. '12**, was selected as the official donut caterer for last May's 146th Preakness Stakes.

Brandon S. Butler, J.D. '13, the former Allegany County (Maryland) county administrator, joined Greenwill Consulting Group as a consultant in May. He represents businesses in Western Maryland and beyond.

GRB&A, a full-service public accounting firm, named **Kelly M. DeRose, M.S. '13**, as partner in February.

Katie Kerner, J.D. '13, an attorney with Jenner Law in Baltimore, was named co-chair of the Maryland Association for Justice's Product Liability Section in February.

Pessin Katz Law, P.A. elected attorney **Adam E. Konstas, J.D. '13**, to member in January.

MBH Settlement Group welcomed **Kim E. Stepanuk, J.D. '13**, as an attorney in September 2020.

Sabrina Viscomi, MBA '13, assistant dean of budget, students and operations at Towson University,

received her doctorate degree in business administration in spring 2021 from University of Maryland Global Campus.

Mishpacha Magazine recognized **Brett A. Weil, M.S. '13**, commercial relationship officer at PeoplesBank, as a "Covid Hero" for his role during the pandemic, helping struggling Maryland businesses apply for and receive loans from the Paycheck Protection Program.

Tiffany F. Boykin, J.D. '14, became the chief compliance and fair practice officer at Anne Arundel Community College in Arnold, Maryland, in August 2020.

Alexander B. Dentsman, B.S. '14, was named to *Baltimore Business Journal's* 40 Under 40 for 2020.

Raymond L. Gambrill, J.D. '15, joined the litigation group at Miller, Miller & Canby in January. His work focuses on business, commercial and real estate litigation and criminal defense litigation.

Nevada State College named **Elizabeth S. Gunn, M.F.A. '15**, dean of the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences in January.

Author **Marjorie O. Baofo Appiah, MBA '16**, also known as Marjy Marj, had her most recent book, *Same Elephants*, featured by the South Carolina State Library in February.

Tracy C. Gold, M.F.A. '16, released a book entitled *Everyone's Sleepy but the Baby* in March. She donated one book to a Baltimore area nonprofit for every preordered book.

Ronald Manson, B.A. '16, published his debut thriller, *A Shepherd of Wolves*, in April. He writes under the pen name R.J. King.

K. Alexander Wallace, M.P.A. '16, joined the government affairs practice of Z+C, LLC, the Annapolis law firm, in January.

Shelby Blondell, B.S. '15, MBA '18, won the grand prize of \$30,000 at Salisbury University's Ratcliffe Foundation Shore Hatchery Entrepreneurship Competition 2021. Her invention, The Sheller, is a flat, stainless steel seafood multitool that is a combination crab mallet, knife and bottle opener. Blondell is also a 2016 winner of UBalt's pitch competition, The Leonard and Phyllis Attman Competitive Business Prize.

Ken Weaver, M.P.A. '16, was awarded the Chester A. Newland Presidential Citation of Merit during the president's reception at the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) national conference held in April.

Grason M. Wiggins, J.D. '16, joined the Maryland Multi-Housing Association as a senior government affairs manager in January.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland hired **Caylin A. Young, J.D. '16**, as the organization's new public policy director in January.

Brian Daskalovitz, MBA '17, joined Andrews Federal Credit Union in June 2020 as the vice president controller. He oversees all accounting and finance operational functions and strategies.

Taylor C. Hartman, J.D. '17, left the Anne Arundel County (Maryland) State's Attorney's Office in 2021 to join Hartman, Attorneys at Law, as an associate specializing in criminal defense.

Erik L. Johnson, J.D. '17, joined the Atlanta office of Swift, Currie, McGhee & Hiers, LLP in September 2020 and specializes in coverage and commercial litigation.

University of California Merced welcomed **Chanelle Reese, M.S. '17**, as assistant ombudsperson in August 2020. She provides services for students, staff and faculty.

NY Eastern Union promoted **Jacob S. Lipoff, MBA '18**, in July 2020 to executive managing director of the QTS Banking and Capital Markets Division.

Kevin Amado Jr., M.P.A. '19, was promoted in January to community impact and engagement manager of the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America.

Kiarya Ingram B.A. '19, was awarded the Title IV-E Education for Public Child Welfare Program Outstanding MSW Scholar of the Year Award by the University of Maryland School of Social Work. The award, presented in April, is given to a graduating student who has exemplified an outstanding level of proficiency, initiative and commitment to the highest standards of social work practice in a public child welfare field placement.

Lauren R. Mullin, J.D. '19, joined the medical malpractice group at Goodell Devries as an associate in December 2020.

Valerie E. Taylor, J.D. '19, joined Pessin Katz Law, P.A. as an associate in the firm's general litigation group in September 2020.

Rollins, Smalkin, Richards & Mackie, LLC welcomed **John K. Thompson, J.D. '19**, as an associate in December 2020.

Jamie Grace Alexander, B.A. '20, was named to *The Baltimore Sun's* 2020 list of 25 Women to Watch. Alexander is an artist, activist and creator of the Gender Museum and the Baltimore Queer Paper.

In Memoriam

1940s
Kurt M. Rosenbach, CERT '46
Charles H. Baldwin, A.B.A. '48
Francis W. Hopkins, A.A. '48

1950s
Elizabeth Bromwell, A.A. '50
Joseph M. Napoli, B.S. '50
Robert A. Rhodes, B.S. '50
Leonard E. Trout Jr., A.A. '50, J.D. '52
Martin Moncarz, J.D. '51
John R. Schafer, B.S. '51
Anthony Shabek Jr., B.S. '51
Fred Tepper, B.S. '51
William M. West, CERT '51
Wallace E. Camp Sr., B.S. '52
Robert W. Heflin, A.A. '52, B.S. '57
Edna L. Williams, LL.B. '52

William R. Benson, LL.B. '53
Norman W. Lauenstein, J.D. '53
John J. Brocato, LL.B. '54
Harry Deitchman, B.S. '54
Charles L. Amos, B.S. '55
George E. Anderer, B.S. '55
Otto P. Schulze, LL.B. '55
Philip R. Beigel, A.A. '56
George B. Dietrich, B.S. '56
Rosario L. Vinci, A.A. '56
Alan Getz, LL.B. '57
Ray R. Hartsoe, CERT '57
Sheldon A. Rubenstein, LL.M. '58
Herbert S. Silbert, B.S. '58
Charles F. Mitchell, B.S. '59

1960s
Charles A. Blackman, B.S. '60
Robert R. Cassilly, LL.B. '60
Stanley Dorf, A.A. '60
Donald H. Lazar, A.A. '60
Philip I. Matz, B.S. '60, LL.B. '67
Carroll C. McComas, B.S. '60
Arthur W. Rees, B.S. '60
David H. Sheppard, B.S. '60
Melvin J. Caldwell Sr., J.D. '61
Melvin R. Guy, J.D. '61
Norman A. Hare Jr., B.S. '61
James E. Holman, B.S. '61
Marvin L. Majewski, B.S. '61
Thomas B. Silcott Jr., B.S. '61
John F. Foley Jr., LL.B. '62
William L. Freeh, LL.B. '62
John J. Gilmore, B.S. '62
William J. Guerin Jr., B.S. '62
David H. Krebs, LL.B. '62
John P. Wever, A.A. '62
John B. Maier, J.D. '63
William H. Wolf Jr., B.S. '63
R. Roland Brockmeyer, J.D. '64
James J. Held, B.S. '64
James C. Hoeck, LL.B. '64
Warren R. Jamison, B.S. '64
Edward J. Katrinic, LL.B. '64
Thomas L. Lovelace, J.D. '64
John F. X. O'Brien, J.D. '64
Edward J. Sas, A.A. '64
Joseph J. Armetta, B.S. '65
Peter W. Bartel Jr., J.D. '65
Donald W. Dew, B.S. '65
Allan R. Kobin, B.S. '65
Donald A. Logan, B.S. '65
Terrell H. Shriver, B.S. '65
Jack M. Torner, LL.B. '65
Albert R. Wilkerson, J.D. '65
John J. Cain, B.S. '66

Joseph A. Cuneo, B.S. '66
Michael K. DeAgro Sr., B.S. '66
Robert I. Edwards, B.S. '66
Gary E. Good, LL.B. '66
John T. Langmead Jr., B.S. '66
Johnny E. Marrs, B.S. '66
Thomas Salvatore III, J.D. '66
William T. Glasgow, J.D. '67
Robert C. Hardy, LL.B. '67
Joseph M. Nolan, J.D. '67
Carl E. Pagan, B.S. '67
Michael P. Smelgus, A.A. '67
George Barkman, LL.B. '68
John C. Baronella, B.S. '68
Melvin M. Bondyra, B.S. '68
Harvey L. Glaser, B.S. '68
Dennis A. Hightow, B.S. '68
William F. Kirwin Jr., J.D. '68
William J. Klimaszewski, B.S. '68
O. Franklin Mitchell, B.S. '68
Carl L. Moltz Jr., B.S. '68
Wayne C. Morrow, B.S. '68
Robert L. Pabst, B.S. '68
Richard W. Shultz, B.S. '68
Thomas C. Wiecech, B.A. '68
Ronald A. Allen, B.S. '69
Thomas K. Day, B.S. '69
Herbert H. Kirshner, B.S. '69
John B. McCrystle, J.D. '69
Eugene J. Pawlikowski, J.D. '69
Paul M. Plaia Jr., LL.B. '69

1970s
Jerry A. Berardi, J.D. '70
Charles R. Boutin, J.D. '70
Ara M. Crowe Jr., J.D. '70
Michael F. Gilligan, J.D. '70
Leah B. Graff, J.D. '70
Robert J. Heitzman, J.D. '70
Edwin M. Kahoe, J.D. '70
Raymond L. Klein, B.S. '70
Lawrence W. Krastel, B.S. '70
Roy R. Krebs, B.S. '70
Joseph F. Lechman, J.D. '70
Irene C. Santoeck, J.D. '70
David L. Schroeder, B.S. '70
Wayne N. Weller, B.S. '70, M.S. '87
Laurence M. Boyd, B.S. '71
Ronald A. Dicrescenzo, B.S. '71
Norman T. Green, B.S. '71
Harold A. McBee Sr., B.S. '71
William J. Reuter, B.S. '71
Charles L. Stull, B.A. '71, M.S. '77
Randall T. Knight, B.S. '72
Curtis R. Perry, B.S. '72
Omeria F. Saunders Jr., B.S. '72

James R. Bell, J.D. '73
Edward S. Calwell, B.S. '73
Matthew S. Evans III, J.D. '73
Guy H. Goeller, B.S. '73
Larry R. Holtz, J.D. '73
John G. McDonald Jr., B.S. '73
John T. Shaw, J.D. '73
Wayne H. Watts, B.S. '73, M.S. '78
Leroy Adams, CERT '74
Ronald R. Donatucci, J.D. '74
Lee F. Fedner, J.D. '74
Murphy Gabriel Jr., B.S. '74
Sharon L. Harris, J.D. '74
William I. Kissinger, B.S. '74
Robert Brewer, B.S. '75
Gerald R. Ingle, B.S. '75
W. Glen McFaul, B.S. '75
Clarence Weston, B.A. '75
Leaston V. Booker Jr., B.S. '76
Marshall A. Botkin, M.S. '76
Maurice A. Fournier, B.S. '76
Raymond H. Fowler Jr., B.S. '76
John R. Goodwin, B.S. '76
Bruce A. Miller, B.S. '76, M.S. '85
Phyllis B. Kramer, J.D. '77
Denise C. Lucas, B.S. '77
David M. Broy, B.S. '78
James G. Gavin, B.S. '78
Howard B. Gerber, J.D. '78
Clyde A. Thomas, M.S. '78
Jules G. Kollar, J.D. '79
Andrew G. Shank, J.D. '79
Edgar L. Youngblood, B.S. '79

1980s
Thomas J. Christopoulos, B.S. '80
Allen T. Cook, B.S. '80
Eleanor P. Lipsitz, M.P.A. '80
Toni R. Manning, MBA '80
Dale R. Mumford, M.P.A. '80
Donald B. Nippard Jr., B.A. '80
Dawne L. Ways, CERT '80
Jeffrey A. Weber, J.D. '80
Alexandra N. Williams, J.D. '81
Katherine E. Wilson, B.S. '81, J.D. '88
Betty Jane C. Ballantyne, B.A. '82
Denise M. Jamison, B.S. '82
Evelyn L. Panzer, B.S. '82
Susan B. Sohn, CERT '82, MBA '84
Vasiliki J. Tsamis, B.S. '82, M.S. '96, CERT '96
Laura T. Wetherald, M.S. '82
Douglas C. Fox, M.S. '83
Kenneth L. Hooper, J.D. '83
Donald C. Mulcahey, J.D. '83
Kathleen A. Talty, J.D. '83

Diane C. Bauman, B.S. '84
Brian P. Fallon, B.S. '84
Katherine A. Holmes, B.A. '84, J.D. '88
Charles J. Ryan III, J.D. '85
Barbara Seaman, J.D. '85
John C. Waugh, B.S. '85
Eileen M. Gilmartin, M.A. '86
Norma L. Harris, M.A. '86
Thomas E. Morrow, B.S. '86
Alan C. Remchuk, M.S. '86
Zachary S. Gray, J.D. '87
Steven W. Ragsdale, B.S. '87
Erlene A. Servance, B.S. '87
Thomas A. Luby Jr., MBA '88
Jane R. Luckey, J.D. '88, LL.M. '93
Moynelle F. Stewart, B.S. '88
Maureen M. Canion, MBA '89
Maureen Vilanova, J.D. '89
Susan Winestein, J.D. '89
Geri Wojciechowski, B.S. '89

1990s
Mark Kulwicki, J.D. '90
Khalil Moorman, B.S. '90
Denise M. Smallwood, B.A. '90
Tracey L. Smyser, M.A. '90
Sandra K. Harris, B.S. '91
Elene L. Aiken, MBA '92
Nelson F. Cross, B.S. '93
Olivia N. Graham, J.D. '93
David N. Rasmussen, MBA '93
Gregory A. Castelli, J.D. '94
Thomas V. Hauck, B.S. '95
David R. Lepson, B.A. '95
Jacqueline A. Finney, B.A. '96

2000s
Rosemary C. Smart, LL.M. '04
Bonnie Jean Schupp, D.C.D. '05
Shawn P. Durkin, B.S. '06
Trevor McDerby, B.S. '06
Robert S. Fayer, B.S. '09
Daniel Haines, B.S. '09
Tong Li, CERT '09, M.S. '12

2010s
Darren Sanborn, LL.M. '10
David Hupp, MBA '11
Matthew M. Testa, J.D. '11
Sergei A. Bower, B.S. '14
Jonathan Oliner, B.S. '14
Babatunde A. N. Bashir-Bello, B.S. '16
Sydney L. Jeter, M.S. '16



MICHAEL KLEIN

Michael Klein, B.A. '76, chairman of Klein Enterprises, one of the largest management and development companies in the greater Baltimore metropolitan area, died on October 18, 2020. Klein and his family have been dedicated supporters of The University of Baltimore for five decades. In 2013, an endowment from Klein and the Philip and Harriet Klein Foundation established the Klein Family School of Communications Design within the Yale Gordon College of Arts and Sciences.



Members of the 1949 staff of UBalt's student newspaper, the Baloo. Schafran is second from left.

Conrad S. Schafran, B.S. '49, died on July 6, 2020. Schafran, a native of New York City, donated his extensive record collection to The University of Baltimore in order to promote the appreciation of jazz music among younger generations of students and music listeners. Now part of the Baltimore Regional Studies Archive in the Robert L. Bogomolny Library, Schafran's collection consists of more than 8,000 vinyl LPs of jazz, blues, folk, rock, big band and show-tune commercial audio recordings. View at archivesspace.ubalt.edu/repositories/2/resources/131.

B ONLINE

WEB EXTRAS

Visit The University of Baltimore Magazine at ubalt.edu/ubmag

Online Panel Discussion

Many aspects of our society are changing rapidly. We're dealing with new ideas and new challenges. There's a lot to talk about, and yet we may not be sure how to effectively communicate about tough topics.

Four UBalt-affiliated thought leaders collaborate to address *The Changing Conversation: Communication in a time of rapid social evolution*.

Their wide-ranging discussion covers topics that include:

- Creating an atmosphere where people feel safe sharing ideas
- Engaging with those whose worldviews differ from our own
- How historical events inform our discussions today

- How learning environments and the workplace are adapting to societal change
- Navigating difficult conversations in personal and professional settings
- Hopeful signs for greater connection moving forward

Watch the discussion at ubalt.edu/changing-conversation or use this QR code:



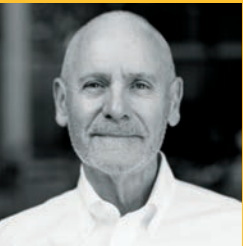
Alicia Jones McLeod



Joshua Clark Davis



Ting Zhang



C. Alan Lyles

Anatomy of Wings

Learn more about the film, a recent winner of Best Documentary at the LA Femme International Film Festival! *Wings* follows a group of young women from Baltimore over a ten-year period. Clips, upcoming screenings and more are available at anatomyofwings.com.



Left: Co-Producers & Co-Directors Nikiea Redmond and Kirsten D'Andrea Hollander. Right: *Anatomy of Wings* promotional poster.

Bodine's City

View a slideshow of photographs by A. Aubrey Bodine, selections from Jennifer Bodine's book *Bodine's City*. Many of the locations featured in this historic collection of Baltimore photos are within a few blocks of The University of Baltimore campus! Visit the slideshow at ubalt.edu/ubmag.



One of Bodine's favorite subjects, the pristine marble steps of West Baltimore, shown here in the 1940s.

LINDSEY ELDRIDGE
• M.P.A. '19, The University of Baltimore
• Director of Public Affairs and Community Outreach, Baltimore Police Department
• Staff for Mayors Stephanie Rawlings-Blake and Catherine Pugh
• Specialist in forging community connections

A Path of Integrity

LINDSEY ELDRIDGE, M.P.A. '19

BY PAULA NOVASH

Lindsey Eldridge, M.P.A. '19, majored in broadcast journalism at Morgan State University. After she graduated with highest honors during the recession of 2008, finding work was a challenge. “For months my job was applying for jobs,” she recalls. “People would tell me I didn’t have the experience they wanted, and I needed a job to get experience. I began to think, maybe communications is not for me.”

Now Eldridge has come full circle as the director of Public Affairs and Community Outreach for the Baltimore Police Department. Baltimore’s is the eighth largest law enforcement agency in the country, and since Eldridge began the job early in 2020, “It’s been a whirlwind!” she says. Although navigating remote technology, fluid pandemic concerns, and incidents of crime around the city is a constant challenge, “We just keep pushing forward,” Eldridge says. “What makes it work is the expertise of my excellent team, and the relationships we have in the community.”

Eldridge has built community connections throughout her career. In her first job post-college, with a Washington, DC-based organization called Leadership Directories, she worked with government officials. “I had the opportunity to practice the business skills I needed for my

future, like how to send a proper email and call someone in a professional manner,” she recalls. After a few years, wanting to return to Baltimore, she took a job in the administration of Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake.

“I tried to learn all I could about city government and Mayor Rawlings-Blake’s platforms,” Eldridge recalls. The uprising after the tragic death of Freddie Gray “was a rough time for the city,” she recalls. “Making sure people know that you care, and following up to build a foundation of trust, was more important than ever.”

Eldridge recalls some memorable moments: “One day a voice on the phone said, ‘Hi Lindsey, this is Vice President Biden and I need to schedule a call with Mayor Rawlings-Blake.’ I had the opportunity to meet First Lady Michelle Obama, too.”

Next, Eldridge took on a scheduling role in the administration of Mayor Catherine Pugh. “One of my favorite projects came about during this time,” she says. “I helped put together an event for 100 faith-based organizations, to share information about how city government could help them grow and develop. It’s still one of my proudest achievements.”

During her maternity leave after the birth of her first child (she’s expecting her second this fall), Eldridge approached the Baltimore City Police Department about a new

“Our department has truly made great strides in the last few years. We are very focused on what the community wants, needs and deserves. We want to be worthy of their trust.”

position. “I was fortunate to take on the role of Community Outreach Coordinator and create it from the ground up,” she says. She then served as interim Communications Director before moving into her current position. Throughout her tenure, Eldridge has worked to bridge gaps between the police department and the community.

“Our department has truly made great strides in the last few years,” she says. “We are very focused on what the community wants, needs and deserves. We want to be worthy of their trust.”

Eldridge says she is inspired by the words of Police Commissioner Michael Harrison. “The Commissioner says ‘Build relationships that were never built, build on current relationships, repair

broken relationships, and know that your every action will do one of those things,” she explains. Eldridge hopes the peaceful protests in Baltimore after the tragic death of George Floyd reflect progress toward forming more positive community connections.

One of her goals is to encourage more women to join the Department. “Women make up 16 percent of our organization with the national average only around 11 percent. By 2030, we’d like to be up to 30 percent,” she says.

Eldridge says she values the different perspectives women in law enforcement provide. “The spokespersons for the Mayor, City Council, Fire Department, State’s Attorney and Police are currently all women,” she notes. “I feel a sisterhood with these leaders. We need to keep breaking that glass ceiling so young women coming after us don’t have to.”

Her approach to new challenges, Eldridge says, is “making sure I’m acting with integrity. Commissioner Harrison also says ‘Right is right even if no one else is doing it, and wrong is wrong even if everyone else is doing it.’ When I stay grounded in integrity, I know I’m exactly where I’m supposed to be.”

Paula Novash is managing editor of the magazine.



CHRIS MYERS

UBALT COMMUNITY
COMMEMORATES
SEPTEMBER 11



Members of The University of Baltimore community gathered to mark the 20th anniversary of the events of September 11, 2001. Speakers including Josiah Guthland, director of the Bob Parsons Veterans Center; Roger Hartley, dean of the College of Public Affairs; and Hugh McLean, director of the Bob Parsons Veterans Advocacy Clinic, shared personal stories and highlighted the significance of the day.

UBalt lost three notable alumni during the attacks in New York City. Nicole Marano, associate vice president for Student Success and Support Services, honored Joseph V. Maggitti, B.S. '75, Seamus Oneal, M.S. '97 and Karen L. Seymour, B.S. '81 by sharing

reminisces from their families about their legacies and the many lives they touched. These alumni are also honored in a plaque in Gordon Plaza, dedicated by the University in 2002. This recognition is located in a garden space beautified by members of UBalt's chapter of the national leadership honor society Omicron Delta Kappa, who were represented by the group's president Chloe France.

Activist and community artist Ron Kipling Williams, B.A. '13, M.F.A. '16, performed his poem "One Morning." Williams is an adjunct professor and faculty fellow at UBalt's Hoffberger Center for Professional Ethics.

In his closing remarks, Guthland reflected on the enduring impact of September 11 for our nation. "As professionals and leaders of The University of Baltimore, it is our privilege and also our duty to educate the next generation so that they too, like us, will never forget," he said.

The UBalt Student Government Association placed 147 flags in the Plaza to represent Maryland lives lost on September 11, and also in the military conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. "When the sun rises, it will shine on the flags of our fallen," Guthland continued, "and remind us that even as time stops for no one, we will stop and remember them."

ABOVE: Josiah Guthland speaking at the September 11 ceremony.

LEFT: The plaque dedicated to UBalt alumni.

MORE RESOURCES ABOUT SEPTEMBER 11

A new area of UBalt's website features videos and other educational resources that consider the role of higher education in understanding the events of September 11 and its legacy.

ubalt.edu/20yearslater

ONE MORNING

One morning
two planes
crashed into our
humanity

One morning
the cries of 3,000
reverberated throughout
the planet

One morning
the stillness of peace
erupted into flames

One morning
the soul of a people
was irrevocably changed

It takes centuries
for a tree to grow
yet minutes
to fall

It takes
decades for a human life
to mature
yet in seconds
it can expire

*It takes months
to erect a tower
yet one morning
to collapse*

We spend
generations
cultivating a society
for all of us to live and thrive
to love and evolve

Sometimes
we take this for granted
that things take
years to build
and moments to ruin

Sometimes
we forget to protect
and honor and cherish
what is sacred to us
believing
it will always be there

Sometimes
we forget
as we scurry around
in our daily fury
to stop
and remember
who we are
and whose we are

And then
one morning
it becomes
too late

Like the trees
towers do fall
but what we did before
and how we stand
in that moment
and what we do next
marks who we are

On the day
of the anniversary
of one morning
we pause
and reflect
and proclaim to our selves
and to each other
with the haunting echo
of the ancestors
from the soil of
ground zero

never forget

May we
on that same day
and every day
never forget
what we have created
what we hold sacred
to what we are dedicated

never forget
for one more morning
who we are
and whose we are
to honor
to protect
to cherish

to love

*Ron Kipling Williams
9/11/13*



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT.

The University of Baltimore community is made up of people from different places and backgrounds. But what we have in common is our resilience, strong work ethic and ambition to make the world a better place. UBalt students and alumni are fueled by an inextinguishable purpose. It's who we are.

These unprecedented times brought unforeseen challenges, and our dedicated alumni and donors stepped up. Your generosity made it possible for our students to forge ahead and to focus on completing their degrees while gaining the skills and experience they will use to make a positive impact.

IT'S BECAUSE OF ALUMNI AND DONORS LIKE YOU THAT WE CONTINUE TO GROW STRONGER TOGETHER.

[UBALT.EDU/GIVE](https://ubalt.edu/give)