



Creative Collaborators

Faculty mentors work with undergraduate students to bring research out of the classroom and into the real world.

SEE PAGE 18

On the cover: William Scharlott reviews his undergraduate research project with his faculty mentor Aoife Mooney, M.A., assistant professor of Visual Communication Design. Scharlott researched and designed dynamic typography to reinvigorate *The Illiad* for a modern reader.

COVER PHOTO BY: MELISSA OLSON

FEATURES

- 6 A Lasting Photo Op**
One man's memories of a 1941 course in news photography led to a gift that will help students pursue their passions for years to come.
by Jan Senn

- 10 Making the Most of Year One**
Our photo album highlights key moments of President Beverly Warren's whirlwind first year. (Opposite page, she joins students in a photo booth at an Inauguration event hosted by Kent State University at Salem.)

- 16 Traveling Stanzas**
Children from Holden Elementary School Writer's Club wrote a poem welcoming Beverly Warren to Kent State, and she wrote a praise song in response. An animated video of both poems were part of her Inaugural celebration.

- 18 Meeting of the Minds**
These undergraduate students and their faculty mentors exemplify the collaborative research, scholarship and creative activity that generates a rich learning environment.
by Jan Senn

- 22 Toxic Threat**
How Kent State researchers are helping find solutions to Lake Erie's harmful algae blooms.
by Tamar Nordberg

- 24 12 Fast Facts about Cece Bell**
Learn more about alumna Cece Bell, whose graphic novel, *El Deafo*, received a Newbery Honor Award for her funny, poignant account of growing up hearing impaired.
by Jan Senn

DEPARTMENTS

- 2 Along the Esplanade**
5 Across the Region
28 Alumni Life
32 Flashback



EDITOR
Jan Senn
magazine@kent.edu

SENIOR DESIGNER
Melissa Olson

STAFF CONTRIBUTOR
Ashley Katona '06, M.Ed. '12

PHOTOGRAPHERS
Bob Christy '95
Jeff Gliden '87
Melissa Olson

Visit *Kent State Magazine*
on the Web at
www.kent.edu/magazine.

Kent State Magazine
is published three
times a year (Spring,
Summer and Fall) by
Kent State University
Communications and
Marketing, P.O. Box 5190,
Kent, Ohio 44242.

Printed on Finch Casa by
Angstrom Graphics in
Cleveland, Ohio.



REBECCA OSMER '16

DAVID DERMER

Got This!

Imagine trying to keep your balance—and your belief in yourself—on a four-inch beam with 3,000 people yelling and screaming around you. That was the challenge for members of the Golden Flashes women's gymnastics team as they competed in the 2015 Mid-American Conference Championship, hosted at Kent State, in March.

Gymnasts on the team had hit 23 consecutive routines and had closed in on defending champion Central Michigan when bars specialist and junior communication studies major Rebecca Osmer was the last one up. She hit her routine and stuck her dismount to clinch the Golden Flashes victory by one-tenth of a point, 196.375–196.275.

"I've been preparing for that moment all year," says Osmer, who had visualized nailing it at the event. She had learned a new dismount at the end of last summer, and perfecting it helped her earn a career-high score of 9.9. But all her teammates had made the win possible; none of them had scored lower than 9.7 on any event.

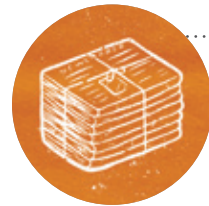
"I can't give the girls enough credit for their ability to believe in and trust themselves," says head coach Brice Biggin, who is now five-for-five when hosting the MAC Championship. "There is no better feeling than to win a championship at home."

Take Five

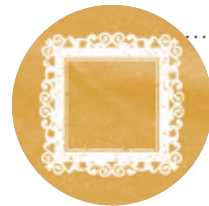
You don't have to be a scholar to find something fascinating to read, view or listen to at Kent State University Libraries. Recent online acquisitions include:



Dictionary of American Regional English (Harvard University Press) Did you know that snuff for chewing is called snooze in the Pacific Northwest and also goes by the name Swedish condition powder?



Early American Newspapers, Series 2, 1758-1900 (Readex) Read what the *Tombstone Daily Epitaph* found newsworthy on a random day in 1881.



Grove Art Online (Oxford University Press Online) View works of art from some of the world's greatest museums and galleries without leaving your armchair.



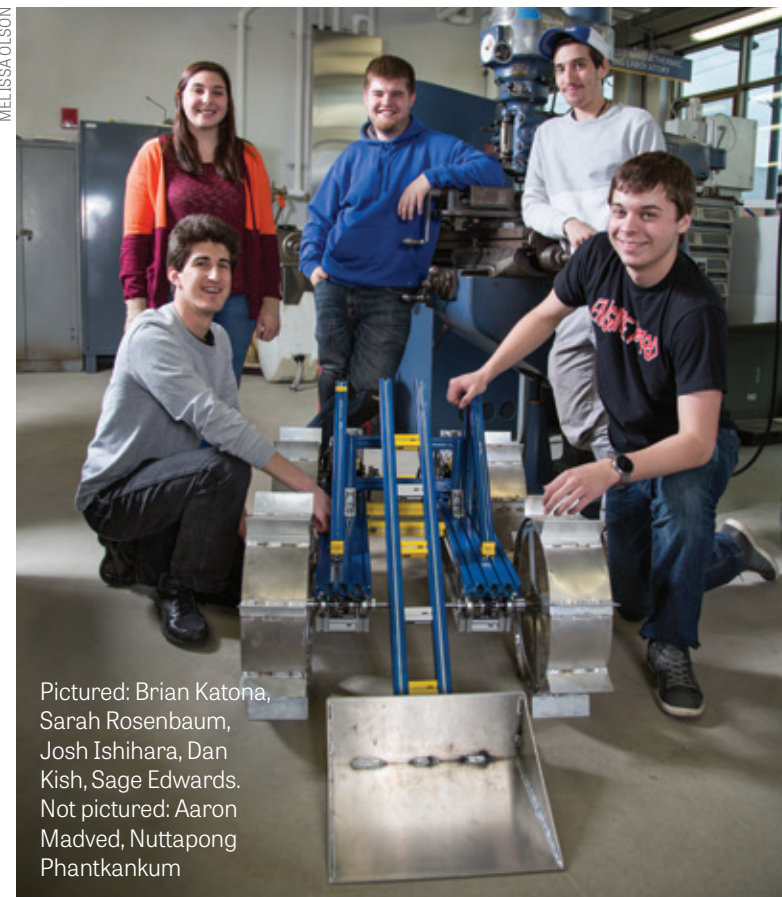
Jazz Music Library (Alexander Street Press) Listen to never-before-released performances from the Monterey Jazz Festival, live recordings from great jazz venues like The Apollo and thousands of jazz artists from legendary record labels. (Access available to Kent and Stark campuses only.)



Women's Wear Daily 1910-present (Proquest) Trace day-to-day news, opinion and socio-economic trends, from runway reports to beauty product reviews.

Explore these online collections (and more) at the library's alphabetical list of databases: <http://libguides.library.kent.edu/alpha>.

MELISSA OLSON



Pictured: Brian Katona, Sarah Rosenbaum, Josh Ishihara, Dan Kish, Sage Edwards. Not pictured: Aaron Madved, Nuttapong Phantkankum

I, Robot

Seven members of the Kent State Robotics Team worked for four months to build a robot for the sixth annual NASA Robotic Mining Competition held in May at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. "Even after 18-hour days, our to-do lists branched off exponentially," says senior Dan Kish, an industrial technology major. **"Projects like this really prepare you for working with people, meeting hard deadlines, problem solving, situation awareness and logistics."**

The students had to come up with a creative and functional solution to an excavation task NASA would face when mining the surface of planets like Mars. The robot's main goal was to move as much regolith (loose, rocky material) from a simulated Martian surface into a collector bin in 10 minutes, taking into consideration factors such as dust, communications, vehicle mass, energy/power required and autonomy. Teams also were expected to help one another with final preparations. "The atmosphere was amazingly supportive," says senior Josh Ishihara, an applied engineering major. **"We helped in any way we could."**

During the last trial, the team watched their robot climb a wall and flip, due to a delay in communications in the control room. "It was quite a way to end our portion of the competition," says freshman Sarah Rosenbaum, a German literature, culture and translation major. "But everything still works—and, quite frankly, it looked incredibly cool!" Kent State was one of 49 schools participating and finished in seventh place. Says Ishihara: **"It was the best college experience I ever had and the most fun."** Watch a video at www.kent.edu/magazine/robot.

By the Numbers: Student Accessibility Services

1,100–1,200
students registered

80–85%
with "hidden disabilities"
(learning, medical, psychological)

3,050–3,600
tests and quizzes proctored
for students needing
accommodations

3,160
hours of classroom interpreting
(American Sign Language)

1,230
hours of classroom
transcription (real-time
captioning) for students who
are deaf/hard-of-hearing

117
books converted to electronic
text or Braille

813
requests for closed-captioning
of digital media

Numbers based on last academic year

Kent State earned Arbor Day Foundation's **Tree Campus USA** recognition for continued commitment to effective urban forest management for the seventh consecutive year.

The program honors schools and their leaders for promoting healthy trees and engaging students and staff in the spirit of conservation.



Strong Finish

Kent State is one of 27 universities nationwide offering a non-degree program tailored for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Career and Community Studies program, which was funded by a federal grant for its first four years, celebrated the first 19 students to complete the four-year college experience with a commencement-like completion ceremony in the Kent Student Center Kiva on May 5th. President Beverly Warren spoke and presented records of completion to each student.

The program focuses on academics, independent living skills and career development. Some courses are modified to support individual student needs. Students work on campus and in the community through internships that help improve their work and social skills. Those who qualify have the opportunity to live in a residence hall as part of a living-learning community.

The students took Kent State courses related to their career interests, attended sports events and hung out at local coffee shops like other college students.

"Research shows that students often do better when they're with their typical peers," says Tom Hoza, Ph.D., Kent State's director of outreach and employment for the Career and Community Studies program. "It's been exciting to see everyone grow socially, academically and in their career field."

Learn more about the Career and Community Studies program at www.kentccs.com.

“Our definition of diversity at Kent State simply says **‘diversity is the presence of difference.’** We welcome difference.”

—**ALFREDA BROWN**, Ph.D., vice president for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Career and Community Studies completion ceremony, May 5, 2015

MELISSA OLSON



Play Ball!

Although Leslie Heaphy, Ph.D., never played baseball as a child, she's become a recognized expert on its history. Heaphy has published dozens of books, articles and encyclopedia entries on the Negro Leagues and women in baseball, has served on the selection committee to vote inductees into the National Baseball Hall of Fame and received a 2014 award of highest distinction from the Society for American Baseball Research.

An associate professor of history at Kent State University at Stark since 1995, Heaphy also has won numerous awards for her teaching, including the Alumni Association's Distinguished Teaching Award in 2013. The Ohio Academy of History recently named her Ohio's "College History Teacher of the Year."

We asked her to field some questions about America's national pastime.

I always liked to watch baseball and read about it. I didn't know you could make it a career until my graduate school advisors were willing to let me write about it!

I'd heard people talk about Satchel Paige and other black players, but 20 years ago I couldn't find much about them. My first book was *The Negro Leagues: 1869–1960* (McFarland, 2002).

Baseball's origins are almost impossible to unearth. Although some of our current rules were created in America, you can trace bat and ball games all the way back to the Egyptians.

The Civil War spread baseball in America. Before, it was played in the New York City area.

America's first professional team was the 1869 Cincinnati Red Stockings.

Our first organized women's baseball team was Vassar College's 1876 "Resolutes."

Jackie Robinson. He integrated major league baseball. He changed the whole nature of the game.

If women ever make it to the major leagues, the first one is going to be a left-handed knuckle-ball pitcher. Because knuckle-ball pitching doesn't require the speed and power of a fastball.

Baseball should allow a women's league. There aren't enough opportunities for women on the professional level.

BOE CHRISTY '95



LESLIE HEAPHY, Ph.D.

I'm a lifelong New York Mets fan. Absolutely. I'm from New York.

Pittsburgh is my favorite baseball stadium, of the ones I've seen. The setting is gorgeous with the river behind it, there's not a bad seat in the house, and they close down the Roberto Clemente bridge to cars so you can walk across it to get to the game.

A baseball signed by all three of the ladies that played in the Negro Leagues in the 1950s: Toni Stone, Connie Morgan and Mamie "Peanut" Johnson.

Third base. Because they call that the "hot corner"—things happen fast and you get to see everything on the field.

A hot dog. It just seems to go along with baseball.

See Heaphy's top picks for books about baseball at www.kent.edu/magazine/heaphy.



A Lasting Photo Op

by Jan Senn

One Kent State short course inspired a high school student's lifelong love of photography—and was so memorable that he made sure to pay it forward. Now his generous gift gives Kent State students in photojournalism and photo illustration the opportunity to pursue their passions.

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES
EXCEPT WHERE NOTED

In March 1941, Wally Hagedorn, a tall, lanky 18-year-old from Reading, Ohio, boarded a bus bound for Kent State University, about 235 miles northeast. He and a high school classmate were headed there to attend a five-day course in news and pictorial photography offered by the School of Journalism. It was the first time Hagedorn would travel so far from home.

His mother, Elsie, hadn't wanted him to go, but she'd relented and driven them to the bus station in Silverton. She knew her eldest child could seldom be stopped when he set his mind on something. As a young boy, he'd sometimes take off on his bicycle after school to visit his grandmother, who lived quite a distance away—without telling his mother. She'd get a call, "Wallace is here, and when he's done eating, I'll send him home." (His family

called him Wallace; his friends called him Wally.)

Another time, he'd set off on his bike to visit his great aunt in Celina, Ohio, about 100 miles north. He'd left a note, though, and his mother knew what route he was likely to take. She got in the car, caught up with him about 10 miles away from home and informed him when he'd better be back or else she'd send the police after him.

So Hagedorn was eager for adventure, and when a high school teacher recommended that he and his friend attend Kent State's Fourth Annual Short Course in News Photography (and may have helped them get a scholarship), he snapped at the chance—like he'd learned to snap a shot with his camera before a propitious moment passed.

Publicity for the course promised that news photographers and photojournalists from the *Milwaukee*

Journal, the *New York Daily Mirror*, *Life*, *National Geographic*, and the *Chicago Tribune* would be presenting lectures and demonstrations. Their number included a photographer whose work Hagedorn admired in the photography magazines he poured over at home.

From March 18 to 22, Hagedorn joined 392 professional photographers and picture editors, student news photographers and amateurs from across the nation who converged on Kent State. They had come to learn about the latest developments in equipment and techniques required by news photographers and to enter their best photographs in an international news and pictorial photo competition.

Topics slated for panel discussions dealt with problems facing news photographers every day, including "Gadgets I Use," "Educating the City Desk," "Profitable Sidelines," and "Varying Hackneyed Assignments."

Left: News photography expert J. Winton Lemen, of the Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, New York, taught the beginner's session at the Short Course, assisted by Kent State University photography students.

A two-day beginner's session began a day before the regular course. At 9 a.m. on Tuesday, March 18, Hagedorn probably joined other beginners in Room 303 Kent Hall to learn the fundamentals of news photography. The program included demonstrations and opportunities to take pictures, develop film and make prints in the six new darkrooms in the basement.

During their time in Kent, Hagedorn and his friend stayed in the attic of a fraternity house. It was hot and stuffy up there, but he didn't mind. As a young man from a family of modest means, he felt like he'd won the lottery by getting to travel to Kent State and attend the course.

A year later, a publication of the News Photographer's Association, which had held their annual meeting at Kent State during the program, referred to it as "what some have chosen to call the finest Short Course in the history of the University."

It was an experience Hagedorn never forgot and often recalled fondly to family and friends. Although he didn't enroll at Kent State or pursue news photography as a career, he took thousands of photos as a hobby, using a Kodak point and shoot camera—he didn't like to lug around a lot of equipment. He joined a camera club, entered and won several photography contests, and his winning photographs appeared in magazines and exhibits.

An outgoing man who enjoyed getting to know people, he'd often

As a young man from a family of modest means, he felt like he'd won the lottery by getting to travel to Kent State and attend the course.

snap shots of people who came to visit him; a few days later, they'd receive an envelope containing duplicate prints.

As a high school student, his cost to enroll in the Short Course had been \$3.00. And 72 years later, after he died at age 90 on October 21, 2013, Kent State learned that Wallace J. Hagedorn had left the School of Journalism and Mass Communication \$3 million.

That's the picture that came into focus as we searched through archival documents about the Short Course and spoke with some of Hagedorn's family members and friends, who recalled the stories he'd told them about his experience at Kent State and what it had meant to him.

Although their memory of those conversations may be a bit fuzzy, Hagedorn's bequest makes his wishes clear: his gift will enable the university to distribute approximately \$200,000 annually to students studying photojournalism and photo illustration in the schools of Journalism and Mass Communication and Visual Communication Design. Scholarships will be awarded to help offset tuition, room and board and fees, as well as to fund opportunities for students to study abroad, accept internships, travel to workshops or conferences and enter work in competitions.

Two years prior to his death, Hagedorn had contacted then President Lester Lefton and donated \$20,000 for two photojournalism scholarships. At the time, he indicated that more might be forthcoming, but nothing else was heard about his plans until after his death. When Thor Wasbotten, director of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, received a call about the bequest in fall 2014, it came as a surprise: "It marks the largest single gift to Kent State University exclusively for student scholarships."

As President Beverly Warren notes, "We can never underestimate the impact that Kent State has on people, whether they are graduates or not. Mr. Hagedorn wanted to give back in a meaningful way,

and his generous gift to fund scholarships will have a tremendous impact on our students' lives."

Hagedorn may have had limited funds and opportunities as a young man, but his gift enables students studying visual storytelling at Kent State to dream big. That's what the Short Course had done for him: It exposed him to a wider world, showed him he had talent, gave him a vision for what was possible—and heightened his ability to visually capture the meaningful moments in his life.

After Hagedorn graduated from Reading High School, he lived at home and commuted to Miami University, where his high school girlfriend and future wife, Joyce, was studying to be an elementary school teacher.

He joined the ROTC, took courses in botany and horticulture and dreamed of going out west to become a forest ranger. (He helped with his father's sod business during summers, and plants had become another of his passions.) His mother waitressed to help with his tuition, and he worked at a restaurant to earn extra money. But money was tight.

Sometimes one of his parents drove him to Oxford; most of the time he hitchhiked, as did many students in those days. One of his professors noticed him hitchhiking and started giving him rides. Then somebody got





Where's Wally? We were unable to positively identify him among the hundreds of participants in the 1941 Short Course who gathered for this class photo, above. But he's likely there somewhere!



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JIM BREITENBACH



Left: Wally Hagedorn, pictured on the campus of Miami University, where he was a member of the ROTC. Above: Second Lieutenant Wallace Hagedorn at Camp Lejeune, the Marine Corps training facility in Jacksonville, North Carolina.

him a job washing out beakers in a lab to help him earn enough money to stay in school. (Hagedorn never forgot the assistance he'd been given, and he and his wife established scholarships at Miami University for students studying elementary education and botany.)

Hagedorn had attended college for one semester when America entered World War II in December 1941, after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Called up for active duty, he joined the Marines and trained at Camp Lejeune as a Second Lieutenant. Before he could be sent to the battlefield, he came down with spinal meningitis and spent almost 10 months in the hospital. Soon after his release from the hospital, he received a medical discharge.

COURTESY OF MICHAEL MINGES



Hagedorn did landscape work for wealthy families in the area and took night classes in horticulture at the University of Cincinnati. Joyce would go with him to class—not to help him study, he joked, but to keep him from flirting with all the other girls.

After she graduated from college in 1945, they married and settled in Cincinnati. They didn't have children. His wife taught third grade at Reading Central Community school for 42 years, and Hagedorn developed his landscaping and nursery business.

Both enjoyed Thoroughbred racehorses, and often traveled to the Keeneland Racecourse in Lexington, Kentucky, for meets. They would place bets of \$2 or less, and they never lost more than a few dollars, but they thought that was extravagant.

Always frugal—they shopped at Goodwill for clothes and didn't buy a home until 1992—Hagedorn saved his money to buy land and stock in companies that his wealthy clients worked for or recommended.

Instead of relying on financial experts, he said he got his investment tips from watching people and noticing what they were interested in—even chatting up people at the grocery store to find out what they liked about the type of coffee they were buying.

This photo, titled "Brotherly Love," is from a slide taken by Wallace Hagedorn on a trip to Nepal. According to family members, it won a cash award in a contest sponsored by Kodak, was published in a national magazine, and was exhibited in a museum in California. It's one of thousands of slides that Hagedorn took during his travels around the world. Several of his amateur photos won awards and were published in magazines.

A friend's father who was in the nursery business once told him, "The nursery will make you a living; the land will make you rich." And it did.

Hagedorn chose his land well, starting his nursery in Springdale, a northern suburb of Cincinnati. He later sold it to the developers of a \$25 million regional project, originally known as Tri-County Shopping Center, which broke ground in 1959, was fully enclosed by 1968 and expanded again between 1989 and 1992. Hagedorn moved his nursery whenever the land it was on proved to be more profitable than the plants he was growing on it.

Through the years, though, photography remained both a passion and a pastime, spurring his travels with his wife to all 50 states and many countries around the world.

Near the end of his life, when asked if he would have done anything differently, Hagedorn said he was happy with most things and didn't believe in regrets—but sometimes he did wonder what would have happened if he'd made photography his career. ⚡

With help from Kent State University Special Collections and Archives, Jim Breitenbach (Hagedorn's second cousin), Tammy Bundy (his neighbor for 11 years), Michael Minges (the husband of his niece, Jackie), and Pauline Twidale (his younger sister).

TYLER HILL



Wally's Winners

This year, 27 photojournalism and photo illustration students received scholarships averaging \$5,000 each, for a total disbursement of approximately \$200,000. Funds also will be invested in student activities such as travel abroad, study away, contests, workshops and internships.

Pictured above are some of the first recipients of a Wallace J. Hagedorn Scholarship: (front row) Rachael LeGoubin, Andrea Noall, Eslah Attar, Emily Vaeth, Erin McLaughlin; (back row) Jenna Watson, Graham Smith, Makayla Brown, Aaron Self, Kristin Garabrant, Amani Williams, Kayla McMillin



To explore how your bequest can make a difference in the lives of students, please contact the Center for Gift and Estate Planning at (330) 672-0421 or giftplan@kent.edu.

Making the Most of Year One

*Photos by Bob Christy '95
and Jeff Gliden '87*

Beverly Warren pledged to be a 24/7 president, and her schedule this first year in office has shown she's as good as her word. Logging many miles on a Listening Tour across the country, meeting with campus and community leaders, reaching out to alumni and students, spearheading the development of a bold strategic plan—she's been at the center of a whirlwind of activity, and we've got the photos to prove it. Here's just a sample of the more than 10,000 shots our staff photographers have taken as they've hustled to keep up with her. They highlight her energy, warmth and unflagging spirit—all in the service of Kent State University.

**Tuesday, July 1, 2014,
12:30 p.m.**

Greeting Barbara Broome, dean of the College of Nursing, at a lunch with college and city leaders at the Kent State Hotel and Conference Center on her first day as president.



**Wednesday, July 23,
2014, 9:41 a.m.**

Touring the downtown Canton Arts District with Denise Seachrist, interim dean of Kent State University at Stark and Judi Christy, the marketing director of ArtsinStark, the county's nonprofit arts council.



**Tuesday, August 19,
2014, 4:25 p.m.**

Taking part in the national ALS Ice Bucket Challenge with Joel Nielsen, director of athletics, and Paul Haynes, head football coach, as members of the football team dump water on the trio's heads. Warren accepted the challenge tweeted to her by Rebecca Windover, an assistant residence hall director whose father-in-law has been battling amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.



**Saturday, August 30,
2014, 7 p.m.**

Joining students in the stands to cheer on the Flashes at their first home football game, playing against Ohio University.

**Friday, September 26,
2014, 10:25 a.m.**

Dedicating the May Prentice House and Poetry Park on the Lefton Esplanade, new home of the Wick Poetry Center. Joining President Warren are (from left) Jim Blank, interim dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Walter Wick and Robert Wick '57 (founding benefactors of the Wick Poetry Center), and David Hassler, director of the center.



"Ten months

into the greatest adventure of my life, I stand before you humble, hopeful and so happy to be part of such an extraordinary community. . . . You have my pledge that I will be a president whose leadership reflects our great hopes, respects our unique history, and always seeks the highest ground. I will approach my work with the dedication and the passion I see in Kent State faculty and staff members; the energy and the enthusiasm of Kent State students; the loyalty and pride of Kent State alumni—and the bold confidence of every black squirrel that ever raced across Summit Street."

—President Beverly Warren, May 1, 2015, Inaugural Address. (Read the complete address at <http://www.kent.edu/president/inauguration.>)

Tuesday, September 30, 2014, 6:05 p.m.

Addressing an audience of alumni from the greater Cleveland area at the Cleveland Museum of Art's Ames Family Atrium. President Warren made many stops on her Listening Tour, but the 39,000 sq. ft. atrium, designed by architect Rafael Viñoly as the centerpiece of the museum's 2012 renovation and expansion, may have been the most breathtaking venue.



Tuesday, October 7, 2014, 10:41 a.m.

Learning about surgical techniques from fourth-year medical student Tatyana Astafiev (Centennial, Colorado) during a visit to Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine. One of nine accredited podiatry schools in the United States, Kent State's college offers the four-year graduate degree of Doctor of Podiatric Medicine.



Saturday, October 18, 2014, 11:35 a.m.

Gathering with a group near the student center just before the "Kiss on the K"—a Homecoming day event that invites Kent State couples to meet at the "K" on Risman Plaza and share a kiss when the library bells strike noon.



Tuesday, February 3, 2015, 4:23 p.m.

Sharing what she learned about "the heart of Kent State" after hearing the thoughts, ideas, concerns and suggestions of more than 5,000 participants during more than 50 scheduled events in the Presidential Listening Tour. "Our first task will be formulating a shared vision for Kent State's future," said Warren in her report, which can be read at www.kent.edu/president/speeches.

**Monday, March 17, 2015,
9:01 a.m.**

Presenting a President's Excellence Award to April Miller, a delivery worker at Mail Services. She was nominated for her operational efficiency and for being a role model and mentor to student workers who appreciate her work ethic, as well as her commitment to education as she completes a master's degree.



**Tuesday, April 28, 2015,
2:59 p.m.**

Sporting her new baseball jersey while pumping up Kent State baseball players before a doubleheader with the Oakland Golden Grizzlies at Schoonover Stadium. The Golden Flashes offered free admission and food for fans to celebrate the Inauguration. Flashes won game one in extra innings (4-5) and lost game two (4-3).

**Thursday, April 30, 2015,
2:59 p.m.**

Sharing a laugh with former presidents Michael Schwartz, Carol Cartwright and Lester Lefton before planting their presidential trees at Manchester Field. In the grove of oak trees—which symbolize strength, power and endurance—different oak species represent each president's unique contributions to Kent State.



**Friday, May 1, 2015,
3 p.m.**

Receiving the President's Medallion from Dennis Eckart, Chair of Kent State University Board of Trustees, at her Inauguration as Kent State's twelfth president. The medallion symbolizes the responsibility of the Office of the President and its central motif is the university seal.

**Sunday, May 3, 2015,
11:46 p.m.**

Standing vigil on the spot where Allison Krause was killed during the May 4, 1970 shootings. "As Kent State pursues an incredibly bright future, we will continue to honor our past," said Warren, who spoke at the 45th May 4 Commemoration, noting that "we still need to share the lessons of May 4th with a world that remains torn by war and filled with injustice."



**Friday, May 8, 2015,
7:32 p.m.**

Posing for a selfie with a proud new Kent State graduate after a Commencement ceremony for those receiving their master's and doctoral degrees. Across the university's eight-campus system, 4,512 students graduated from Kent State this spring, including those receiving associate degrees. ⚡



THE TORCH

*for Kent State President
Beverly Warren*

Show us the stars
we can't see
in the night sky.
Paint the picture
of our future.
Draw the outline
of tomorrow.
Be our light
and dance alongside us.

You tell us we matter,
words matter.
Outside your tall windows
our hearts open like tulips
unfurling in the sun.
Hear our cheers
welcoming you
to your new home.

You are the torch.
We are your fire.
Together we spark
a new story.

—Holden Elementary
School Writer's Club
KENT, OHIO

Created by the Wick Poetry Center for the Inauguration of the
12th President of Kent State University, Beverly J. Warren
Illustrations by Rust Valley Design
View an animation of these poems at TravelingStanzas.com.



PRAISE SONG for KENT STATE

Every day we begin anew
black squirrels racing across campus,
coffee-bean cologne filling the air
from cups clutched tightly
as respite from the winter's chill.

The people of Kent pull on Levis and lab coats,
blazers and backpacks, uniforms and yoga pants —
all dressed for success in this
down-to-earth, reach-for-the-stars town.
Praise song for a new day in my new home.

We meet at the MACC, the Rock, the Green, the Gazebo.
We imagine brilliant futures at Convocation and
stand witness to their arrival at Commencement.
We gather on the Commons
to light the darkness and remember still.
Praise song for the bold and the fearless.
Praise song for those who dare ask, "Why not?"

Three hundred days at Kent State in our rising college town.
This champion of freedom and diversity.
This mecca of innovation and inspiration.
This transformer of lives.
This peerless place we call home.
Praise song for the path we will travel tomorrow,
arms linked, minds open, hearts full.

—Beverly Warren
PRESIDENT, KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

Meeting of the MINDS

Undergraduate research is thriving at Kent State, as students and their faculty mentors find mutual benefit in their collaborative efforts.

by Jan Senn
Photos by Melissa Olson

Scientific research, scholarship and artistic work don't happen in isolation by lone individuals in a lab, study or studio. Such pursuits are usually part of a collaborative effort. Most creative people will tell you they owe much to mentors who help them focus ideas, find resources and figure out a way forward—who believe in them and encourage them to keep going. And mentors say these relationships enrich their lives and work, as well.

It was easy to find these kinds of stimulating partnerships at Kent State's second annual Undergraduate Research Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity in March. More than 120 undergraduate students across Kent State's eight campuses presented their work—and their enthusiasm for solving real-world problems—with their faculty mentors by their side or watching from the sidelines.

We highlight that spirit of creative collaboration in the four partnerships profiled below, selected from among those who won first-place awards. But everyone who participated was a winner. "You have chosen not to wait for the challenges to come to you after graduation," noted Provost Todd Diacon, Ph.D., whose idea to celebrate undergraduate research and innovation sparked the event. "Instead, you have taken on the real-world challenges now!"

Invigorating a classic text

William Scharlott had never taken a design class when he signed up for Intro to Typography, but his teacher, Aoife [pronounced 'E-fah'] Mooney, M.A., an assistant professor of visual communication design, soon realized he was unusually talented for his age. And he discovered that typography was a category for something he'd always loved: "My earliest memories are of shapes, colors and lines."

After teaching him again in her Graphic Design 1 course, Mooney asked if he'd like to enter an assessment of student work by the International Society of Typographic Designers.

"Will is an excellent typographer, a very good researcher and presenter, so I thought he could do it," Mooney says, even though Scharlott was a sophomore and most applicants for admission to the society were in their third or fourth year. "He said, 'This sounds like a lot of work. I'm in!'"

His brief was to take a classic text and reinterpret it for modern readers who appreciate type. He chose *The Iliad* because it was the first bedtime story his parents read to him. (His mother is a librarian, his father a professor.)

Scharlott investigated how to reinvigorate the text through manipulating type—easier to do on a computer than in manual typesetting—to create an emotional response in the reader.

For four months, they met weekly. Mooney would critique his work, give him feedback, and he'd rework it. Says Scharlott: "She's a wonderful teacher. She helped me with the general ('this is looking good, but the composition could be better') and the precise ('this could be moved up one pixel')."

Scharlott entered his final project in the undergraduate research symposium, and over spring break, Mooney took his project, along with six other entries from the school, to London for the assessment. Although he didn't get in to the society this time, the judges were impressed, and Mooney was proud of his effort.

"I'd love to try again," says Scharlott. "Working with Aoife was a privilege, and submitting it to the undergrad symposium was rewarding. Anything else didn't matter. I had already gained the experience."

Exploring the effects of exercise

Aneela Qadir, a psychology major, noticed she could do homework after going for a long run, but writing a paper after finishing an intense crossfit class was a challenge. So she wanted to compare endurance and high intensity interval training to see their effects on students' mood and cognition. She approached Misty Hawkins, Ph.D., a postdoctoral research associate in psychology (whose lab she'd volunteered in last fall), and asked if she could do her own study.

Hawkins appreciated Qadir's skills as a research assistant and agreed to help the Honors student implement her idea—with some adjustments. "Her original idea would have taken months, but the longer the study, the more participants drop out," says Hawkins. She met with Qadir regularly and helped her think through a series of questions that addressed things like study type, source of funding and safety concerns.

Aneela Qadir
Senior, Psychology

Misty Hawkins, Ph.D.
Postdoctoral Research Associate,
Psychological Sciences

William Scharlott
Sophomore, Visual
Communication Design

Aoife Mooney, M.A.
Assistant Professor, Visual
Communication Design



Muhammed Bahcetepe
Junior, Architecture

Rui Liu, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Architecture
and Environmental Design

The planning and approval process (Qadir also had to meet with the University’s Institutional Review Board) took a little over a year; the actual study took about 100 hours. She found that all three of her study’s interventions—endurance exercise, high intensity exercise, watching a relaxing video—were helpful in returning participants to their normal mood after a stressful event (delivering an impromptu three-minute speech while being “videotaped”). But the group doing the endurance exercise showed significant improvement in attention over the others. (So students may not want to work out or sprint to class before taking a test.)

“I won an award, but if it hadn’t been for Dr. Hawkins, I never would have gotten this far,” says Qadir, who is heading to Colorado State University to pursue a master’s in public health concentrating in physical activity and healthy lifestyles.

“We talked a lot about balance,” says Hawkins. “Besides research aptitude, you have to consider a researcher’s ability for time management and self-care. Aneela was good at that, too—with some reminders from me. I was blown away watching her come up with ideas and do the project. Plus, she inspired me to carve out more time for exercise.”

Evaluating dredged material

Muhammed Bahcetepe, a junior architecture major, is concerned about sustainability. When he heard his Structural Systems professor, Rui Liu, Ph.D., talk about his research project studying innovative and beneficial uses for dredged material from Cleveland Harbor, he asked if he could go with him to meetings about the project. Liu, an assistant professor of architecture, later hired Bahcetepe as a research assistant, with support from Ohio’s Lake Erie Protection Fund.

More than 1.5 million cubic yards of sediment must be removed annually from Lake Erie to keep Ohio’s channels and harbors clear. Cleveland built a confined storage facility to contain the dredged material, but it’s filling up fast and other Ohio communities need to deal with their dredged material, too. Placing it further out in the water harmed the lake’s ecosystem, and putting it in landfills is costly and depletes land resources. Liu hopes to develop alternatives.

“The project started in January, so over winter break I sent Muhammed background information to read, and he picked it up quickly,” says Liu. Bahcetepe bakes samples of dredged material taken from the storage facility in a ceramics kiln to evaluate its possible performance for use in green roofs, rain gardens, 3D building materials and even arts and crafts.

He brings the results of his experiments to Liu and they discuss next steps. The initial firing raised the temperature too quickly, and some of the material exploded—lesson learned. This trial and error process helps students develop critical thinking and time management skills, says Liu.

Bahcetepe, who commutes to Kent from Cleveland, isn’t sure what he’ll do after he graduates next year—he’ll either go on to graduate study at Kent State or apply to another research intensive school like Princeton, Harvard or MIT. “I’m hoping this undergraduate research will help me get in the Ivy Leagues,” he says.

Focusing on the femme fatale

Hagan Whiteleather loves black and white movies, and when she took a class in which she had to make a website about a topic of interest, she chose film noir. “As I researched the topic, I saw ties between film noir and pulp fiction,” says Whiteleather, an English major. “It was time to pick a topic for my Honors thesis, so I decided to explore it further.”

The scholars she read in her literature review mentioned that the *femme fatale* (a seductive woman who lures men into dangerous situations) was a result of male anxiety, but they didn’t go into depth.

Then she read a book about Rosie the Riveter and realized that she had been a form of propaganda during World War II. Toward the end of the war, though, propaganda about strong, independent women working to help the war effort took a sudden shift. They were expected to head home and make way for men returning to the workforce.

Since films with femme fatale characters emerged in the mid-1940s, near the end of the war, Whiteleather wondered if they had been propaganda, too—serving as a cautionary tale to post-WWII women that independence leads to disaster, female autonomy will be your downfall and overt sexuality will be punished, usually by death.

She’d read 26 books and watched 15 films to see what was going on during that period, and as she broke down the actions and dialogue in five films, she turned to her advisor, Kimberly Winebrenner, Ph.D. (an English professor with whom she’d taken two classes, Women’s Lit and U.S. Lit), to help her sort through her jumbled thoughts.

“Sometimes when students talk about an idea it helps them organize and understand what they already know,” says Winebrenner. But Whiteleather credits her professor with helping her focus her ideas—and figure out when to stop. “At times she would be anxious about the project, but I’d say you’re doing a great job,” says Winebrenner. “Finally, I had to say, ‘Okay, you’ve done enough’—or her thesis would have been much longer!”

“She kept me sane,” says Whiteleather, who is applying to grad schools in the fall and taking a year off to save money and spend time with her family before she heads back to school. She plans to be a professor of English literature—just like her mentor. ⚡

See the students’ posters or process books at
www.kent.edu/magazine/undergradresearch/.



Hagan Whiteleather
Senior, English

Kimberly Winebrenner, Ph.D.
Professor, English



A Landsat-5 image acquired on October 5, 2011 (near the end of the most extensive harmful algae bloom season to hit Lake Erie in decades) shows the complexity of the water in the Western Basin and Sandusky Bay. The various colors arise from mixtures of different types of algae and cyanobacteria, suspended sediment and decaying plant material.

Toxic Threat

As harmful algae blooms burgeon in Lake Erie and other bodies of water around the world, Kent State researchers are developing methods to monitor the situation and make sure our drinking water remains safe.

by Tamar Nordberg

In recent summers, blooms of toxic algae have formed a mucky blanket on some Ohio lakes, killing fish and making swimming unsafe. But for several days in August 2014, these so-called blue-green algae, known technically as cyanobacteria, made national news by crippling the public water supply serving the Toledo area.

Strong winds blew the harmful algae blooms (called HABs for short) against Lake Erie's shore, surrounding the region's water intake system. And neurotoxins (in this case, microcystins) released by the organisms entered the intakes in high enough amounts to sound an alarm.

Don't drink—or even cook with—the water from your faucet, authorities warned nearly half a million nearby residents in Ohio and Michigan. Ingesting the tainted water could cause vomiting, diarrhea, skin irritation and even

liver damage in humans and animals. Boiling the water only made it more toxic. As people scrambled to buy bottled water, which quickly sold out in stores for miles around, the National Guard was called in to deliver extra supplies.

Could something similar happen this summer?

It's not time to hit the panic button, says Joseph D. Ortiz, Ph.D., a geology professor at Kent State University's College of Arts and Sciences who specializes in aquatic biology and oceanography. Ortiz and his colleagues are among a group of researchers who have been developing methods to better predict future harmful algae blooms.

"Maybe something good has come out of the problem in Toledo last summer," says Ortiz, whose research has taken on a new sense of urgency. "We've been galvanized to improve the situation."

With funds and support from the Ohio Sea Grant, the Ohio Board of Regents and NASA, Ortiz is honing methods for spotting a harmful algae bloom, preferably before it gets too large or too close to shore. The goals include minimizing harm to fish, keeping beaches open to swimmers, and alerting communities with water intakes nearby so they can take steps to defend their water supply (such as closing the intakes and stepping up the rate at which they're treating the water). Ortiz has been examining crucial questions such as: What types of organisms are in the water? How extensive are they? Where are they and in which direction are they moving?

To advance the understanding of how algae blooms develop and thrive (see sidebar), Ortiz is putting a space-age spin on long-standing research methods. Traditionally, scientists have plodded along by boat, collecting samples for analysis a single spot at a time. "My focus is on trying to identify these organisms in a rapid and remote way," Ortiz says.

He is developing a remote sensing technology that relies on pictures taken with an instrument aboard NASA's International Space Station called a hyperspectral imager. The high-resolution pictures—decoded with the help of elaborate computer programs that Ortiz's group is continually refining—allow Ortiz to identify plant pigments by the distinctive way each absorbs and reflects light. This "pigment fingerprint" makes it possible to classify organisms and determine which ones are harmful, and which ones are benign or even beneficial to the ecosystem.

This summer Ortiz is also joining forces with additional experts from Kent State and three other universities on a HAB study in Sandusky Bay. As part of a \$2 million Lake Erie water quality program requested by Ohio Governor John Kasich and created by the Ohio Board of Regents, the Kent State group is helping develop an early warning system for water filtration plants.

Ortiz's specialized knowledge of remote sensing is key to the project, according to George Bullerjahn, Ph.D., a professor of biological sciences at Bowling Green State University and the study's principal investigator. While Bullerjahn's team measures chlorophyll, toxins and nutrients the conventional way, from the ground, Ortiz will contribute the hyperspectral imager's cosmic perspective. Says Bullerjahn: "Joe's angle is 'How can we map the movement of this bloom from space so we can tell water treatment plants in advance when to take appropriate measures to treat the water?'"

Ortiz—who grew up on the East Coast, got his doctorate in oceanography from Oregon State University and has taught at Kent State since 2001—has conducted much of his research on Lake Erie, which he has adopted as his "personal mini ocean." As he points out, the Great Lakes are important sources of fresh water, accounting for about 20 percent of the world's supply. Lake Erie is the smallest of the Great Lakes, and it's also surrounded by more agriculture and human activity

than the others, which contributes to the harmful algae blooms, Ortiz says.

But HABs are by no means limited to Lake Erie, the Great Lakes or the state of Ohio. They have turned up in bodies of water around the globe, including Europe and China.

"At a recent conference I attended, they were talking about Lake Taihu in China, which has blooms so intense that scientists estimate they need to cut the nutrient influx by about 90 percent to turn off the bloom conditions," Ortiz says. "That's twice as bad as what we're looking at."

Communities are taking steps to prevent nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen, common in many fertilizers, from getting into lakes, ponds and rivers where they are known to nourish the algae blooms. "For example, the Ohio legislature recently passed a bill to outlaw the spreading of fertilizer or manure during the winter, before the spring thaw, which will help decrease farm runoff," Ortiz says. "Farmers are learning better practices, which helps them, too, because they want to fertilize their fields, not the lake."

This summer's Sandusky Bay project will help Ortiz put into practice his previous research. "We've developed the basics of the methodology," he says. "Now it's time to start rolling it out." Ortiz enjoys the complex science, but says the tangible promise of preserving local water supplies—and ultimately contributing to water safety improvements the world over—will be his best reward. ⚡

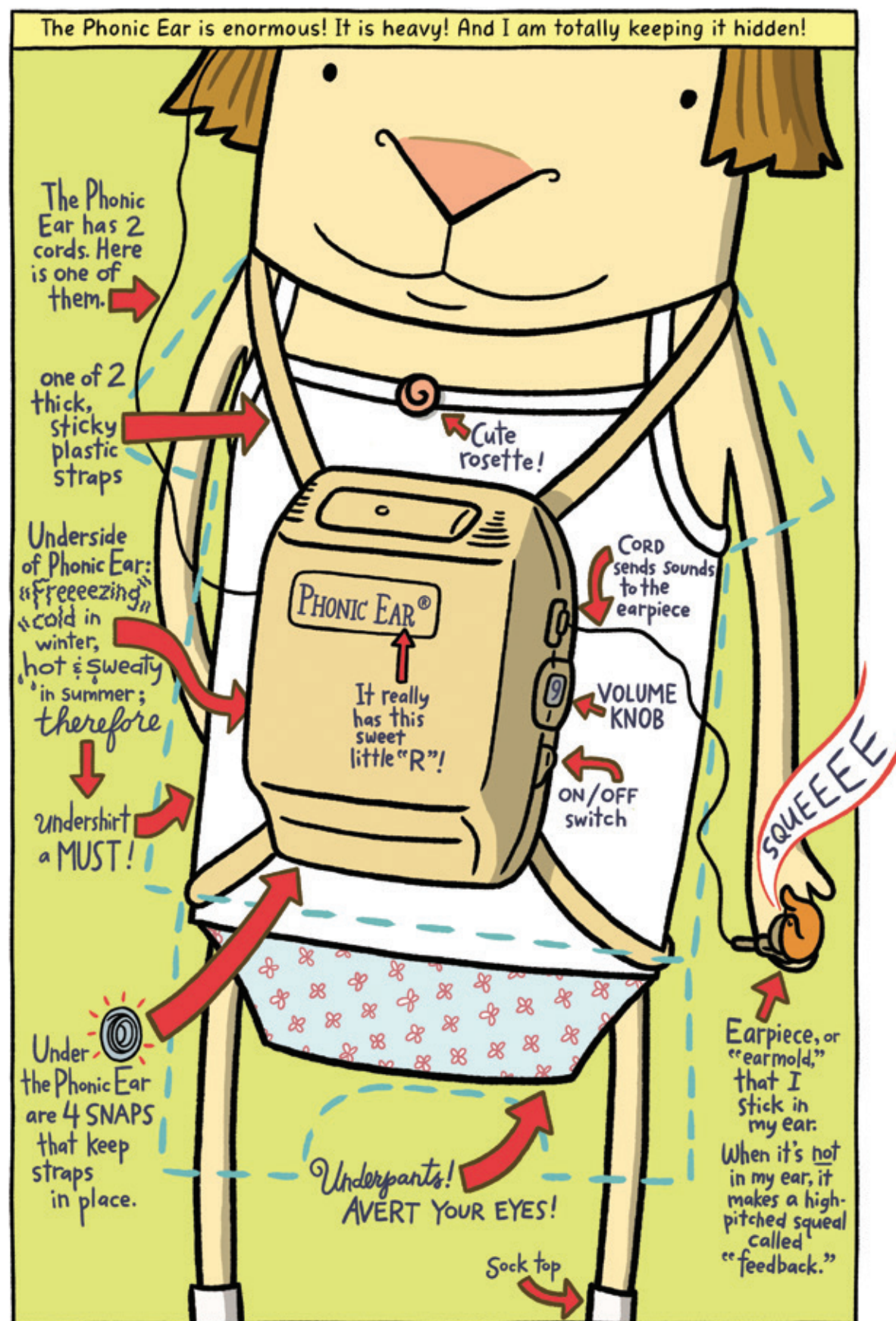
What Creates An Algae Bloom?

Algae blooms aren't a new phenomenon—these ancient organisms have been around for 3.8 billion years, says Ortiz. Although not all algae blooms are harmful, scientists still don't know why some produce high levels of toxins. "Cyanobacteria are particularly toxic to multicellular life, yet there was no multicellular life when they first evolved," notes Ortiz. He says the organisms are proliferating now due to an influx of nitrogen and phosphorus being pumped into rivers and lakes—and the blooms may become even more prevalent as the climate warms.

"In the 1950s and '60s, we introduced high levels of nitrogen by dumping raw sewage into Lake Erie, saying 'Dilution is the solution to pollution,'" Ortiz says. "That didn't work so well." Algae blooms, fish kills and industrial waste contaminated the lake and nearby rivers.

Over the next two decades, the United States spent \$8 billion to improve wastewater treatment, and states and communities passed laws to reduce the levels of minerals that nourish the algae. The measures were successful in restoring the health of Lake Erie by the '90s, but recently the blooms have returned, largely as a result of agricultural runoff.

"Sometimes when you fix one problem, you create another," Ortiz says. "In trying to fix soil erosion, farmers were urged to go with low-till or no-till agricultural practices. But because they changed the way in which they applied the fertilizer, it would sit on the surface and be more apt to run off. That's a big reason we're having these gigantic blooms now."



12 Fast Facts About Cece Bell

by Jan Senn

Although the main character in the graphic novel *El Deafo* is a cartoon rabbit with long ears and a bob haircut, the book is really a condensed account of Cece Bell's experience of growing up hearing impaired.

Bell, who is a 1998 graduate of the Master of Arts program at Kent State's School of Visual Communication Design, has written and illustrated more than a dozen children's books. (See sidebar on page 27.)

Her most personal book, *El Deafo* (Amulet Books, 2014), is a *New York Times* best seller and won a Newbery Honor Award from the American Library Association in February 2015. It's only the second graphic novel to receive such an honor.

Here are a dozen other facts about Cece Bell:

1. She lost most of her hearing at age four and a half after contracting meningitis. Her parents didn't realize she couldn't hear until several days after she returned home from the hospital.

2. She's an excellent lip reader. (As long as you don't have a mustache or beard.) Since she already had four years of hearing and had developed speech, her parents decided not to enroll her in schools for the deaf or sign language.

3. It took her years before she felt ready to write about her childhood. "I finally came to a place in my life when I could say, 'Okay, I'm deaf!' I had tried to keep it hidden for so long. . . . My hearing loss was quite traumatic and adjusting to the hearing aid in school caused me so much embarrassment that the memories and feelings from that period of my life were easy to get to."

4. The Phonic Ear she wore as a child isn't as large as it appears in her drawings. It's actually 3 inches wide x 4 inches tall, but to young Cece, who wore it strapped on her chest (hid under the bib of her overalls), it felt huge. (See left.)



5. She was aiming for emotional truth over literal truth. "I wanted to show readers how it felt to be the only deaf kid in the school, and what it sounded like, too. I also wanted to tell an entertaining story. So I had to slightly readjust my personal time line and make a few composites of the people I knew. Otherwise it would have been confusing and you'd be asleep by page 21."

6. She had never written a graphic novel before. She worked on it for about

five years, along with other projects. "I don't know how graphic novelists make more than one in their lifetime!" The comic-book approach helped her tell the story. In several scenes a character's speech balloon is empty or filled with gibberish. "It's the perfect visual way to show how a hard-of-hearing or deaf person might or might not be hearing."

7. She's not really a rabbit. In *El Deafo*, she made her characters rabbits because they have giant ears and are good at hearing. "It was sort of a visual metaphor to show how I was feeling . . . like the one rabbit whose big ears didn't work. So that's why everyone became a rabbit. And rabbits are cute."

8. El Deafo was her nickname for herself. She didn't share it with anyone, though, during her younger years. Someone had told her about an *ABC Afterschool Special* episode in which one kid calls a deaf kid "Deafo." "I thought it was funny at first. Then it made me mad. I thought: I'll call myself that so if anyone says it to me, I'll be ready! It did help."

9. Her graphic memoir has resonated with many hearing-impaired children and adults.

As she notes in the book's afterword, there's a spectrum of deafness and every deaf person's experience and approach is different. Still, she says, "One of the biggest thrills for me since the book came out has been finding folks who are a lot like me. It's the best."

10. She's married to another successful children's book author.

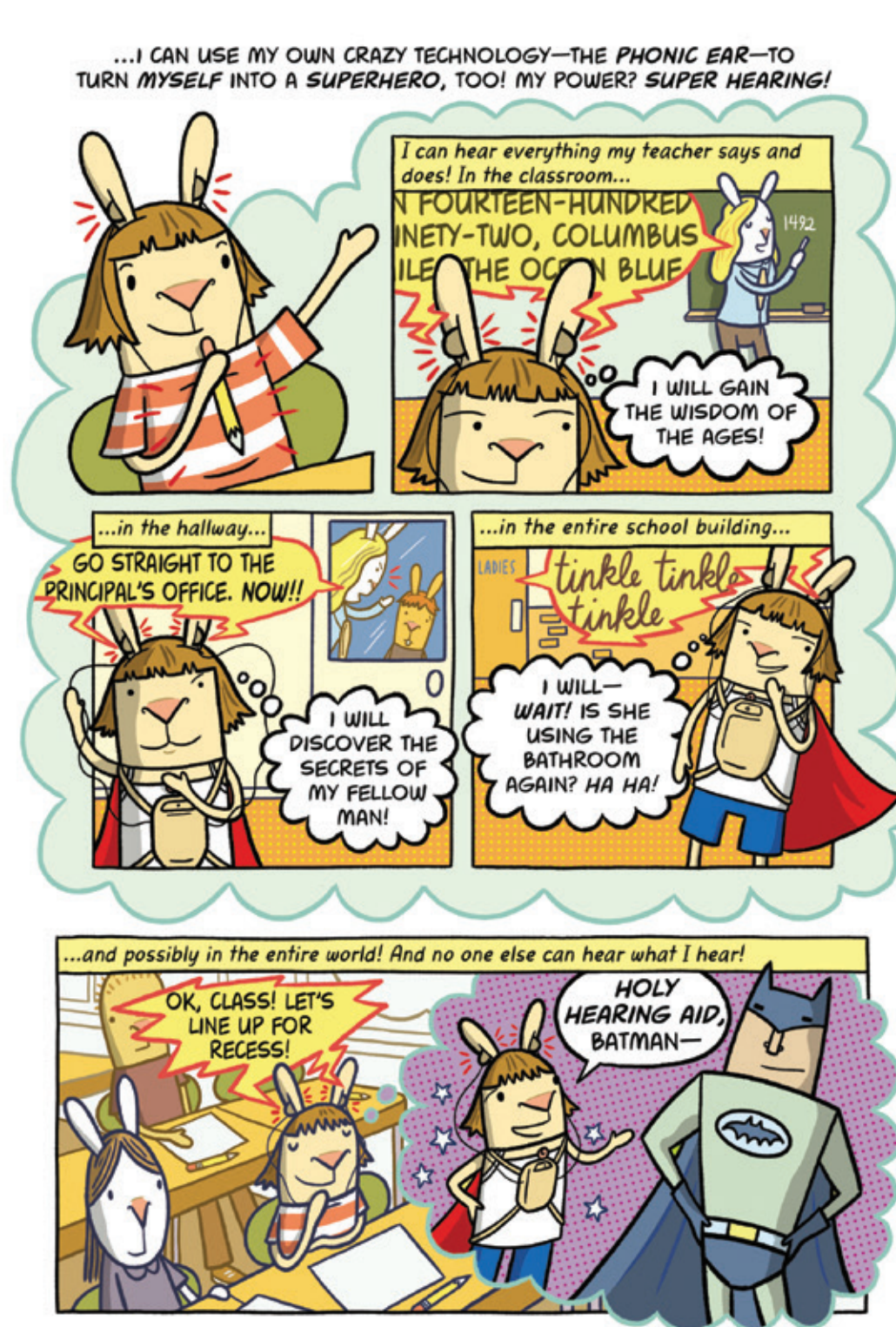
She met her future husband, Tom Angleberger—whose books include the *Origami Yoda* series (Harry N. Abrams) and *Crankee Doodle* (Clarion Books, 2013), illustrated by Cece Bell—at the College of William and Mary, where they both majored in art. They live in Virginia and have two sons.

11. She named one of her characters after her teacher and mentor at Kent State.

The main character, Jerry Bee, in her book *Bee-Wigged* (Candlewick Press, 2008) was named after Jerry Kalback, Professor Emeritus of Visual Communication Design. “It’s still my favorite of all the books I’ve done.” She read from it when she returned to the Kent Campus in March 2009 to teach a workshop.

12. Her most recent book is about a donkey and a yam.

“It’s called *I Yam a Donkey* (Clarion Books, 2015), and the premise is: A donkey and a yam get into a big argument about grammar. There ya go. In some ways, it’s closer to how I actually am as a person today: playing for the yuk-yuks, not worrying about the deafness so much.” ⚡



EL DEAFO written and illustrated by Cece Bell, Copyright 2014. Used by permission of Amulet Books, an imprint of Harry N. Abrams, Inc., New York. All rights reserved. Watch videos of Cece Bell at www.kent.edu/magazine/CeceBell. Learn even more at www.cecebell.com.

Books by Cece Bell

- 2015**
I Yam a Donkey (Clarion Books)
Sock Monkey Takes a Bath
Sock Monkey Boogie Woogie
Sock Monkey Rides Again (Candlewick Press)
Reissues of the first three Sock Monkey books
- 2014**
El Deafo (Amulet Books)
2015 Newbery Honor Book
- 2013**
Bug Patrol (Clarion Books)
by Denise Dowling Mortensen, illustrated by Cece Bell
Crankee Doodle (Clarion Books)
by Tom Angleberger, illustrated by Cece Bell
- 2012**
Rabbit and Robot: The Sleepover (Candlewick Press)
2013 Geisel Honor Book
- 2009**
Itty Bitty (Candlewick Press)
Sock Monkey in the Spotlight (Sterling)
Reissue of the first two Sock Monkey books
- 2008**
Bee-Wigged (Candlewick Press)
- 2007**
Sock Monkey Rides Again (Candlewick Press)
- 2006**
Food Friends: Fun Foods That Go Together (Candlewick Press)
Busy Buddies: Silly Stuff That Goes Together (Candlewick Press)
Sock Monkey in the Spotlight (Candlewick Press)
Compilation of the first two Sock Monkey books
- 2004**
Sock Monkey Boogie-Woogie (Candlewick Press)
- 2003**
Sock Monkey Goes to Hollywood (Candlewick Press)
Named the Quirkiest Picture Book of 2003 by Publisher's Weekly

“Our differences are our **superpowers.**”

—CECE BELL

Douglas Graham '05

Managing Director,
Investigative Group International
Washington, D.C.



President Barack Obama has a departure photo taken with Doug Graham, Presidential Personnel Office, in the Oval Office. (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)

Class Notes

☀️ *The little sunburst denotes an Alumni Association member. For a list of life members, visit www.ksualumni.org/lifemembers.*

59 Terence Burley, MA, Bristol, England, wrote, "I am proud to announce the recent publication of my first work of fiction, *The Sparrow*, an account of a schoolboy in the 1930s who engages in a succession of adventures around the world, including Boston, New Orleans, the Cayman Islands, Honduras and Brazil. It is available in a Kindle version and is soon to be in print."

Douglas Graham '05 planned to go to law school before he was exposed to other career possibilities as part of Kent State's 15-week Washington Program in National Issues. He met Supreme Court justices, members of Congress, the editor of *The Washington Post* and lobbyists.

"It broadened my horizons," says Graham, who interned at the Democratic Congressional Committee and later helped lead the Democratic National Committee's opposition research effort for the 2008 presidential campaign. He worked as a consultant for tech companies and congressional campaigns before being tapped to help vet presidential appointees for Obama's second-term cabinet.

"I worked with attorneys, the FBI and the IRS to do thorough background checks before individuals were announced as nominees," says Graham, who made sure appointees could withstand congressional scrutiny.

In January 2015, he left the White House to become managing director of Investigative Group International, an investigation and corporate intelligence firm, whose clients include Fortune 500 companies, law firms, universities, high net-worth families and government entities. "It is as important to our clients that they have the right people as it was for the President," says Graham.

We asked him how to interview someone and make sure they're reputable.

To find the truth:

1. Do your research. Don't rely on Google; you can find free information in public records about a person's professional and financial past that will provide insight into their character. Search for different versions of a person's résumé, CV or LinkedIn profile (online or at past employers) to compare with the one you have.

2. Ask specific, probing questions. When a candidate realizes you have done your homework, they may be more honest or, if they are hiding something, they will have to commit to a story that later you can either confirm or refute.

3. Pay attention to cues. Early in the interview, ask a question you know the answer to that may be uncomfortable for them to address (for example, if they've ever been arrested, kicked out of school, fired from a job, etc.). Study their response, including tone of voice, eye contact, hand and facial gestures.

If they attempt to mislead, omit info or even lie, you may be able to detect a "tell" [an unconscious action thought to betray an attempted deception, such as speaking in a monotonous tone, avoiding eye contact or limiting physical expression] to look for during the remainder of the interview. ⚡

78 Thomas Haren, Canton, Ohio, recently retired from Canton City Schools after more than 35 years as a biology teacher and 27 years as the McKinley Varsity Head Tennis coach for both the boys and girls teams. He was inspired to be a biology teacher by KSU biology professor, role model and friend, Dr. Ben Foote.

82 Christopher Sopko, Windermere, Fla., recently released a new book titled, *The Pyramid of Business Success: 15 Characteristics All Leaders Need to Build a Successful, Long Term Business*.

84 ☀️ Christine Meeker-Lange, Sarasota, Fla., has been appointed to The Suncoast Science Center's executive leadership team as chief operating officer. An idea strategist, special projects director and public relations/marketing communications professional with 25 years in the media, technology and higher education fields, Lange was previously employed as special assistant to the president, Dr. Larry Thompson, at Ringling College of Art and Design in Sarasota, where she had worked since 2000.

88 Andrea Testa, Long Beach, Calif., wrote, "I had a career change last year and got Rookie of the Year in 2014 from Keller Williams Pacific Estates Realty."

90 David Jakubowski, Hudson, Ohio, wrote, "I am on the committee for the **65th anniversary of Delta Tau Delta's Kent State chapter**, which will be celebrated during a weekend of planned activities culminating in a dinner at the Kent State Hotel and Conference Center in Kent, Ohio, on August 29, 2015. For more information, contact dbransky@ameritech.net or call Dave Bransky at 216-396-3558."

91 Marianne Vitullo, Stow, Ohio, is owner of Pinnacle Events & Expos, currently producing Women's Expos in Ohio and Indiana. Visit www.womens-expo.com.

96 Ann Watson, MLS, Shepherdstown, W. Va., has accepted a position as the new associate state librarian for library services at the State Library of Ohio; she will lead and manage the Library Services Division.

Derek Wolfram, MLS, San Jose, Calif., was named the director of the Redwood City Public Library in November 2014.

00 Jill McConnell, MLIS, Allison Park, Pa., is the newly appointed executive director at Cooper-Siegel Community Library in Fox Chapel. She will oversee the library collection of 80,000 books, CDs and reference materials, balance budgets, supervise staff and promote programming.

Daniel Blair '10, Haverford, Pennsylvania, wrote, "I married Colleen Campbell on October 25, 2014."



Julie Fitzwater '09, Columbus, Ohio, wrote, "On August 8, 2014, my husband, **Kevin Pospichel '10**, and I were married at Fred Fuller Park in Kent, Ohio. Kent was the perfect location for our wedding because Kevin and I first met at the Kent State University Student Center. We celebrated our wedding with pictures at the riverfront (including our dog, Balto, and cat, Abraham), and we danced the night away. Kevin and I both graduated from Kent State, and it will forever be a big part of our lives." Pictured above: Genevieve Okenka, **Kelsey Gerbig '12**, Ryan King, **Jennifer Fitzwater '06**, Aaron Urchek, **Jessica Fitzwater '10**, **Greg Pospichel '03**, **Kara Pospichel '05**, **Ron Dear '11**, **Jacki Fitzwater '01 and '06**, **Kevin Pospichel**, **Julie Fitzwater**

01 Lauren Worley, Washington, D.C., and **Brett Silcox '02, MPA '05**, Washington, D.C., witnessed the historic test flight of the Orion spacecraft from Kennedy Space Center on December 5, 2014. Worley is press secretary and senior advisor at NASA; Silcox is manager, external outreach and legislative affairs specialist for Space Technology Mission Directorate at NASA. Both Silcox and Worley serve as political appointees of President Barack Obama's administration.

03 ☀️ Paul Marnecheck, MA '10, North Royalton, Ohio, wrote, "Our son, Philip Alan Marnecheck II, was born on December 23, 2014."

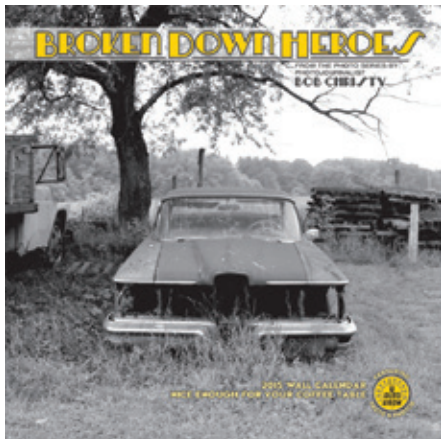
05 Carrie (Wissinger) Short, MEd, is the associate director of Student Financial Aid at The University of Akron. She and her husband, Ben, reside in Medina, Ohio.

06 Marling Engle, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, owner of Certified Nerds, a computer sales and repair service in Akron, Ohio, announced that they have been named a 2015 NEO Success Award winner for the second year in a row. The program annually recognizes the top-performing companies in Northeast Ohio, measuring business success in sales, growth and profitability.

Murat Gurer, Cleveland, Ohio, wrote, "My wife and I welcomed our first baby boy, Sedat Ali."

07 Dustin Lee, Garfield Heights, Ohio; **Jon Jivan '08**, Munroe Falls, Ohio; and **Terry Geer '12**, Willoughby, Ohio, are partners in Maple Films, Ltd., a Cleveland, Ohio-based multimedia production company that had three short films chosen for screening at the 39th International Cleveland Film Festival in March. Their documentary, *Super Pimp*, was awarded the FilmSlam Student Choice Award for Best Short Film, along with a \$1,000 cash prize. Visit www.maple-films.com.

10 Kevin Ray, MLIS, Cleveland, Ohio, is one of 10 librarians in the country to receive a 2014 Carnegie Corporation of New York/New York Times "I Love My Librarian Award." Recipients were selected for their dedicated public service and the valuable role they play in transforming lives through education in our nation's communities. Ray is a children's librarian at the Martin Luther King Jr. Branch of the Cleveland Public Library.



Bob Christy, '95, Green, Ohio, wrote, "I produce a calendar every year with some publisher friends of mine. It's called 'Broken Down Heroes' and consists of photos of old, rusty cars sitting in fields and barns. It won first place for black and white photography in the retail division of the Calendar Marketing Association's 2015 National and World Calendar Awards." See <http://tinyurl.com/BrokenDownHeroes>.

12 Sonya Knisley, MLIS, Arcanum, Ohio, has accepted a position as the head of Children's Services at Clark County Public Library (CCPL). She has previously worked as a children's librarian for CCPL and as the collection development librarian and children's assistant at Preble County District Library.

Cynthia Boyden, MLIS, Columbus, Ohio, has accepted a position as library assistant in Circulation and Special Services at the State Library of Ohio. She will be responsible for providing resources to state employees and Ohio residents.

14 Trevor Watkins, MLIS, has been hired as the new science librarian at Kent State University Libraries. He will work closely with faculty and students to assist with science research inquiries relative to the departments of chemistry, computer science, liquid crystals, mathematical sciences, physics and technology.

Michelle Darvis

Multimedia concept artist
Kent, Ohio

During 2014, Michelle Darvis tackled a challenging art project—completing one painting outdoors every day for an entire year. Among other things, she dealt with cold weather (above normal snowfalls and below normal temperatures in January) and a busy schedule (planning her wedding in August).

Darvis says painting *en plein air*, a French expression that means “in the open air,” gave her a new appreciation for the beauty of the seasons. Paintings from her project, “A Year in Plein Air,” feature scenes of Ohio and other places she visited last year, including many from around Kent State. “The campus is so beautiful,” says Darvis, who studied fine and professional art with a concentration in drawing at Kent State from 2003 to 2007.

She believes “we should do what we love every day of our lives,” and even painted with her husband on the morning of her wedding.

“My constant was painting on an eight-by-ten-inch canvas with oil paints. Other than that, I had no plan.”



January 5, 2014



January 13, 2014



May 4, 2014

COURTESY MICHELLE DARVIS



Michelle Darvis at the opening reception for “A Year in Plein Air.”

Darvis is exhibiting her collection of 365 paintings in multiple cities nationwide in 2015. (See www.michelledarvis.com.)

We asked her how to develop a daily practice and move past roadblocks.

To keep motivated:

- **Tell people your goals.** If the people around you don’t know your goals, how can they help you reach them? If someone tells you that your goals are impossible, move on. Find people who truly believe in you—they are out there!
- **Build support.** Ask someone to check on your progress every day. Make it a point to talk to them or send them a daily update. It will help you move closer to your goal.
- **Take care of yourself.** Being outside each day will give you a boost of oxygen, improve your mood and might even give you a new outlook. And stay hydrated; I try to drink at least 8 cups of water each day. Whenever I’m feeling sluggish, often I’m just dehydrated.

- **Focus on one thing at a time.** Instead of counting how many days were left, I concentrated on the current day. If I felt overwhelmed, I would complete the next task, washing my brushes or laying out my pallet. Then I’d feel ready to head out.
- **Work for a higher purpose.** I work for and am inspired by God. No matter what your beliefs are, having something outside yourself to work for—your family, people you love, people who need help—makes motivation come naturally. ⚡

#KentHC



Save the Date!

Homecoming 2015

October 3, 2015

Plans are under way for Homecoming!

Revisit your favorite campus destinations and gather with your friends.

Start the day off at 8 a.m. with the **Bowman Cup 5K Race** and conclude by watching the **Golden Flashes** clip the wings of the University of Miami RedHawks at 3:30 p.m.

In between, enjoy the **Homecoming parade**, **continental breakfast** and **spirit tent** at the Williamson Alumni Center. Share a smooch during **Kiss on the K**, go back to class with a **faculty lecture** or enjoy **open houses** across campus.

For detailed event information, please check www.ksualumni.org/homecoming.

In Memory

☀ The little sunburst denotes an Alumni Association member. For a list of life members, visit www.ksualumni.org/lifemembers.

Olive Gifford '36, January 18, 2015
Harold Briola '37, January 15, 2015
Arlynn Burton '41, November 21, 2014
Ruth Fenton '43, January 2, 2015
William Lee Guisewite '43, January 25, 2015
Earl Stanley '43, February 11, 2014
Barbara Gallivan '47, May 18, 2014
Charles Francis '48, March 20, 2014
Robert Proper '49, April 18, 2013
George Diem '50, August 7, 2013
James Barkes '51, November 26, 2014
☀ **James Wasil '51**, January 29, 2014
Daniel Bella '52, November 13, 2013
Patricia Moseley '52, January 15, 2013
Richard Roberts '52, December 3, 2013
John Frankenburger '53, December 16, 2014

Antonia Gittler '53, January 24, 2015
Andrew Lokie '55, January 12, 2015
Frances Schneider '55, May 26, 2013
Thomas Averill '56, April 23, 2014
☀ **Kent Damschroder '57**, December 15, 2014
Edwin Cairns '59, September 5, 2014
☀ **George Schultz '60**, December 31, 2013
Peter Karis '64, January 31, 2015
John Lioce '65, December 22, 2013
Emmett Cunningham '66, October 14, 2014
Elaine Hoffmann '66, October 2, 2014
James Eaton '67, January 19, 2015
Fritz Overs '67, March 1, 2014
Samuel Corpe '68, January 16, 2015
Jacqueline DeCosmo-Carroll '68, March 6, 2014
Janice Usher '68, January 2, 2014
Beverly Bahr '69, October 16, 2013
John Doult '71, November 13, 2014
James Huxel '71, December 14, 2013
John Kavcar '71, January 2, 2015
Paul Timko '71, December 29, 2013
Fred Tokarsky '71, November 21, 2013



Do you have any of these missing student newspapers?

Kent State University Libraries is creating a digital online archive for the student-run newspaper (<http://dks.library.kent.edu/>), which has been published since 1926 under various names.

To complete the run, we are looking for issues of the *Kent Stater* newspaper from **July 1943 through August 1944** and **September 1950 through December 1950**.

If you have an original copy of any of those issues (or know of a lapse in publication during those timeframes), please contact Cara Gilgenbach, Head of Special Collections and Archives at: cgilgenb@kent.edu. Thank you!

Jane Weiser '73, March 24, 2013
Allen Batis '74, September 23, 2014
Donald Hillegass '74, January 14, 2015
Fred Oblak '74, August 10, 2014
Laurence Coleman '75, September 5, 2013
Daniel Peters '76, October 27, 2014
Laurel Wilms '76, November 18, 2013
Edward Cooper '77, April 27, 2014
Nancy Anderson '78, June 3, 2014
Sally Overs '78, January 5, 2015
Ron Tomola '80, March 11, 2015
Kevin Hiltbrand '82, July 1, 2013
Gaylord Kellem '82, July 11, 2014
Pamela Johnston '84, October 21, 2014
Sandra Gustafson '85, April 3, 2014
Dennis Reidy '85, January 26, 2015
Eric Widen '86, July 2011
Kenneth Scott '88, April 1, 2014
Daryl Dutcher '92, September 2, 2014
Cliff Whitman '96, July 10, 2013
Marsha Forrest '05, February 19, 2014



Students prepare to launch the annual Rowboat Regatta (date unknown).

On Your Mark. Get Set. Go!

Kent State's Rowboat Regatta—the brainchild of an unnamed student in a 1939 journalism class—was sponsored and staffed by the *Kent Stater* every spring from 1939 to 1969.

Regatta Day typically began with a parade of cars heading to the site. The first competitions were held on the Cuyahoga River, but were later moved to Brady Lake, Hudson Springs Park and then Round-Up Lake.

Sororities, fraternities and independent groups competed for trophies, and women with at least a 2.0 grade point average were eligible to try out for Regatta Queen. Rowers were required to pass a swimming test, but all students could enjoy the races and other contests, which over the years included relays, tug-of-war, frog-leaping, barrel-rolls and canoe jousts.

In 1947, however, the popular event—meant to be a satire on Ivy League rowing championships—was swept into the spotlight. *Life* magazine telegrammed the *Kent Stater* that they were assigning a photographer to cover the event, and Akron radio station WAKR planned to broadcast a play-by-play.

“We hope it is not growing too quickly,” wrote *Kent Stater* editor-in-chief Robert E. Hoyt in the May 14, 1947 issue. He noted that organizing the event was a tremendous amount of work done by very few people. “We’ve wondered if it could be possible that any difficulty could exist which has not presented itself.”

The next week's issue contained a letter from Merle “Wag” Wagoner, faculty manager of athletics and official starter for the Regatta, who wrote, “I am very sorry that the excessive delays in running the races caused some criticism. . . . It would be a darn shame to lose the event because of delays that could be overcome with a slight bit of planning.”

Although *Life* photographer George Skadding photographed the event (see a slideshow of his photos on the magazine website), *Life's* editors later wrote to say they would be unable to schedule the story, according to a June 24, 1947 *Kent Stater* article titled, “Life Sends Regrets.”

Even so, current *Kent Stater* editors—maybe it's time to revisit some version of this tradition? ⚡



ALL PHOTOS BOB CHRISTY '96

Hats Off to Our New Graduates!

Mortar boards became the base for a bevy of creative designs and messages from this year's graduating class. Here's a selection from among hundreds spotted at Kent State's Spring Commencement ceremonies.

This spring, Kent State conferred 3,883 degrees, including 2,864 bachelor's degrees, 874 master's degrees, 142 doctoral degrees and three educational specialist degrees at the Kent Campus. May you all fulfill your dreams! ⚡

Way to Go!



**Monday, April 27, 2015,
12:18 p.m.**

Flash high fives President Beverly Warren during an Inauguration event hosted by Kent State University at Salem.

For more photos from our 12th president's first year, see page 10.