

Echoes

CALDWELL COLLEGE ALUMNI MAGAZINE



4

Caldwell College's First Doctorate
in Applied Behavior Analysis



Echoes

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Letter from Alumni Board President



Dear Fellow Alumni,

It is a time of great excitement and future hopes here on campus. Caldwell College has been approved for its first Ph.D. program. Homecoming 2009 saw one of the biggest alumni turnouts in years on campus. Students continue to be engaged in exciting learning and internship opportunities. Caldwell College continues to flourish and grow.

The campus is especially abuzz with the inauguration of Dr. Nancy H. Blattner as the Eighth President of Caldwell College. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to sit down with Dr. Blattner in August as she prepared for the 2009-2010 school year to discuss the needs and desires of the alumni.

During our conversation, Dr. Blattner was excited to connect with the alumni base and has openly engaged the Alumni Board and Shore Chapter of the Alumni Association and various other alumni contacts to gain knowledge of their Caldwell experiences, as well as what the college can do to better serve alumni.

Dr. Blattner assured me that the alumni of Caldwell College will always have a voice in the important decisions made at the college. She asked us to send representation to campus planning activities and asked us to please keep her advised of any alumni concerns or needs.

I also informed Dr. Blattner that the alumni are anxious to help the campus community and lend their support. The college needs our support both financially and through involvement. I encourage you to support the college's Annual Fund financially. Any donation that you can make to the college would be greatly appreciated. I also encourage you to contact Kathleen Buse and get involved in the Alumni Association by volunteering to serve on a committee or work at an event.

We look forward to continuing this great new relationship with Dr. Blattner and helping Caldwell College prosper through whatever challenges may lie ahead.

Tim Nellegar '00
President, Alumni Board

Caldwell First Doctorate in



Caldwell College's ABA "Dream Team," (l.-r.) Dr. Sharon Reeve, Dr. Kenneth Reeve, Dr. Tina Sidener, Dr. Patrick Progar, and Dr. Ruth DeBar, in a rare still moment together.

has been shown to produce major gains in a child's social, communication, self-care, leisure, and academic skills. In fact, as many as 50% of children enrolled in well-designed and intensive ABA programs may learn to such an extent that they no longer meet the formal diagnosis of autism.

Behavior analysts break tasks to be learned into smaller, more easily learned components. Frequent positive feedback and rewards are given as each child progresses in his or her skill development. To assess the effectiveness of the interventions used, the achievement of each child's learning goals is tracked and recorded.

"We believe that in the years to come, the graduates of Caldwell College's Ph.D. in ABA can have a positive impact on the lives of thousands of New Jersey children and their families."

On July 29, 2009, Caldwell College was granted approval to offer the first Ph.D. program in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) in the state of New Jersey by the Commission on Higher Education. The program is also the first doctoral program in the College's 70-year history. The new Ph.D. program was developed as a result of the increasing demand for professionals in leadership positions and as practitioners of ABA, particularly for the education and treatment of individuals with autism and related disabilities.

Autism is a serious developmental disorder that affects a child's ability to communicate, form relationships with others, and respond appropriately to his or her surroundings. Typically appearing before age 3, the disorder occurs approximately four times more often in boys than girls. Once believed to be extremely rare, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) report that as many as 1 in 150 individuals in the USA may have the disorder. More alarming, however, is that New Jersey has the highest prevalence of autism for any state in the country, with about 1 of every 94 children being diagnosed.

When a child receives the diagnosis of autism, parents often turn to Board Certified Behavior Analysts, professionals who are trained in ABA. Over 40 years of well-designed, peer-reviewed research studies have demonstrated the effectiveness of this science-based approach to learning for individuals with autism. ABA

In 2005, Caldwell College began to offer its popular Master of Arts in ABA program. Since its inception, over 45 graduates have gone out and applied their knowledge and skills in ABA to help those with autism and related disorders. "Although every new professional helps," notes Dr. Sharon Reeve, who directs the new Ph.D. program at Caldwell, "there are such long waiting lists for ABA services that we have struggled to meet the demand. There is also a very real shortage of qualified professionals who are trained to assume leadership positions and to develop and oversee school programs for autism." This need for leaders in the field of ABA and autism treatment resulted in numerous requests from parents of children with autism and professionals in the field of ABA that the College make the next logical step and begin a doctoral program.

The ABA doctorate is a natural evolution of coursework that has been in place for a number of years at the Master's level in the Psychology Department. Four full-time faculty members have been teaching in the Master's program since its inception. An additional faculty member has joined the team of four this September to meet the demands of the large number of graduate students enrolled in the various ABA programs.

College's Applied Behavior Analysis

At the end of August, the first 11 doctoral students in Caldwell College's history sat down for their first class in the 45-credit Ph.D. program. After nearly two years of development, the new Ph.D. program continues the College's commitment to scholarly research in behavior analysis and evidence-based treatment for autism. Designed for applicants who have already completed their Master's degree in behavior analysis or a related field, the program includes coursework in both basic and applied behavior analysis as well as research and practicum experiences. The Ph.D. culminates in a dissertation research project that will provide students with an opportunity to make significant scholarly contributions to the field.

In the near future, the College plans to develop an on-campus ABA Clinic which will give doctoral students hands-on training in ABA and the opportunity to train and supervise younger colleagues in the Master's program. According to ABA faculty member Dr. Tina Sidener, "The center will serve the community by providing parents and their children with a place to come for evaluation and training by skilled professionals in the application of ABA principles. The center will also serve as a site for cutting edge research into both basic and applied principles of behavior."

"We believe that in the years to come, the graduates of Caldwell College's Ph.D. in ABA can have a positive impact on the lives of thousands of New Jersey children and their

families," said Dr. Patrick Progar, Chair of the Psychology Department and ABA faculty member. "The Ph.D. program builds on Caldwell's uniqueness in this area and completes the continuum of scholarly preparation and training for new leaders in the field of ABA."

Sharon A. Reeve, Ph.D., BCBA-D and Kenneth F. Reeve, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Co-Coordinator of the Graduate Programs in Applied Behavior Analysis at Caldwell College in New Jersey.



Doctoral Students in



Lori Bechner

Lori Bechner received a master's degree in clinical psychology, with a specialization in behavior analysis, from the University of Massachusetts in 1999. She has worked with children diagnosed with autism in school and home-based settings for 14 years. She is currently Clinical Director at the Educational Partnership for Instructing Children (EPIC) in Paramus, NJ. In this role, she oversees programming for EPIC students, as well as training for staff and parents. She is also an adjunct in the psychology department at Caldwell College.

In addition to her clinical work, Lori has been very involved in the larger field of behavior analytic treatment of autism. She is currently serving as Past President of the New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis (NJABA) and President-Elect of the Autism Special Interest Group (SIG) of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI). She also coordinates the *Clinical Corner* section of the newsletter and website for the Association for Science in Autism Treatment (ASAT).

Lori is interested in pursuing a doctoral degree in ABA because she feels strongly that learning is an ongoing process. She says, "In order to provide stellar clinical programming, I need to constantly be completely up-to-date on seminal work in the field, as well as the latest developments in the peer-reviewed research. Caldwell's Ph.D. program is led by experienced, knowledgeable professionals, and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to study with these experts."



Eric Rozenblat

Eric Rozenblat currently works as a Trainer of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) at the Institute for Educational Achievement in New Milford, NJ, a private school for children with autism and an affiliate site of Caldwell College's graduate programs in ABA. In his current position, Eric is responsible for providing hands-on training to staff who provide direct instruction to individuals with autism. He is also an adjunct professor in Caldwell's psychology department.

As a board-certified behavior analyst who has been working with individuals with autism for nearly 10 years, Eric felt it absolutely necessary to earn an advanced degree in ABA from Caldwell. According to Eric, "Caldwell College is a leader in the training of future behavior analysts. As an alumnus of Caldwell College's master's in ABA program, I can provide a firsthand account of how well the program prepared me to work with individuals with autism on a daily basis. The education I received about the science of behavior analysis is absolutely first-class."

He adds, "The doctoral degree will not only advance both my education and clinical training, but will also allow me to mentor and train future behavior analysts as I have been trained. Caldwell College can provide me the training I need to develop greater skills and instill the science of ABA in others who hope to work in this field. This is an opportunity I will not let slip away!"

the Field



Jessica Rothschild

Jessica Rothschild is a 2008 graduate of Caldwell College's master's in ABA program. She is a teacher in the Bernards Township school district, teaching 8- to 10-year-old children with autism. Bernards Township is an affiliate site of Caldwell College, and Jessica was provided her teaching opportunity there through her studies at Caldwell. She will also run her dissertation research for her Ph.D. at Bernards Township. Jessica says, "Being a teacher has further inspired me to learn more and further my professional development. I am working towards my Ph.D to continue providing the autism community with qualified and knowledgeable service. I am also eager to remain a student of ABA. In addition, I will continue to conduct research to contribute successful methods to use when teaching individuals with autism." At the completion of her studies, Jessica is eager to teach in a college or university setting. She also looks forward to being a mentor for other students studying ABA. Jessica states, "The Caldwell College ABA program has prepared me not only for life as an educator, but also for improving the lives of individuals with autism."

Sharon A. Reeve, Ph.D., BCBA-D

For information about the new Ph.D. Program in ABA at Caldwell College, visit www.caldwell.edu/graduate.

WHAT IS AUTISM?

- Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) are a group of disorders that include autism, Asperger's disorder, and pervasive developmental disorder-not otherwise specified.
- ASDs are characterized by severe and pervasive impairment in:
 - Social interaction (for example, poor eye contact or lack of sharing experiences with others)
 - Communication (for example, language delays or lack of make-believe play)
 - Stereotyped behaviors and interests (for example, strict adherence to routines or repetitive motor movements)
- Cause is unknown, but there appears to be a genetic influence
 - ASDs are not caused by poor parenting or vaccinations.
- Can often be detected as early as 18 months
 - All children should be screened for ASDs at 18-, 24-, and 30-month "well-child" visits.
- ASDs occur in all racial, ethnic and socioeconomic groups.
- 4 times more likely to occur in boys
- In the United States, approximately 1 in 150 children is diagnosed with an ASD.
 - Prevalence is highest in New Jersey: 1 in 94 children.
- Prevalence has increased, but the reason is unknown. May be due to
 - Better diagnosis
 - Expanding public awareness
 - Better services and funding
 - Actual increase in occurrence of ASDs
- The only comprehensive treatment that is supported by research is an early intensive Applied Behavior Analysis program.
 - Generally, begins under 5
 - 25-40 hours per week
 - 1:1 and group instruction
 - Both adult-led and child-led
 - Uses a variety of techniques based on the principles of behavior analysis
 - Addresses all skill areas

Tina Sidener, Ph.D., BCBA-D

New Autism Clinic to Open in September

Positioned on the northeastern corner of the Caldwell College campus is Mother Joseph Residence Hall, future home of the college's autism clinic and center for behavior analysis. Scheduled to open in fall of 2010, the new center (yet unnamed) will be a venue for a variety of innovative and state-of-the-art educational and clinical services.

The autism clinic, which will be located inside the behavior analysis center, will be established to serve the families and children of North Jersey affected by autism spectrum disorders. Because New Jersey has the highest prevalence of these disorders, Caldwell has accepted the responsibility to provide excellent training to the students who will meet the needs of these families by making sure that the most effective treatments are available for them.

The clinic will be a forum for providing graduate students with quality clinical supervision and research experience. "We will be able to supplement school programs for children with autism by offering expertise in areas such as functional analysis and empirically supported treatment of challenging behaviors such as self-injury,

sleep problems, and eating problems. We will also teach new skills such as language, play, self-help, and toilet training," said Patrick Progar, Ph.D., BCBA-D, Psychology Department Chair and ABA program faculty member. Undergraduate students will be invited to participate as assistants in the clinic through a practicum course.

Graduate students will also have the opportunity to take courses at various sites from all over the country via video conferencing equipment located in the center. The students and professor can have reciprocal conversations throughout a class. This technology will also allow faculty to teach and interact with students from multiple settings simultaneously.

Future plans for the center include home and school consultation, infant developmental assessments, parent counseling services, and treatment clinics for other populations such as individuals with habit disorders and Alzheimer's Disease. In many ways, the autism clinic will extend Caldwell's mission of excellent education and service into the future.

Tina M. Sidener, Ph.D., BCBA-D

Imagine This – A New Autism Clinic in Mother Joseph Residence Hall in Fall 2010



Remember the Lower Level Lounge?

- A state-of-the-art facility dedicated to serving children with autism and their families in New Jersey
- A team of highly trained professionals guiding parents and teachers
- A clinic that provides the most effective evidence-based autism treatment currently available

Construction plans are already underway. We need your support to launch this exciting venture that has the potential to help thousands of children.

History is being made on this campus – be part of it.

To make a gift for the autism clinic, contact Beth Gorab, Director of Development at 973-618-3204 or bgorab@caldwell.edu

10th Shore Social a Breeze!

On September 13, 66 alumni and friends attended the 10th annual Shore Social at Klein's Waterside Cafe. The crowd enjoyed the delicious food and relaxed in sunny and mild weather. The new College President, Dr. Nancy Blattner and her husband, Tim enjoyed meeting Shore Chapter alumnae, and Nancy talked to the group about her move and the first few weeks on the job.

On behalf of the Shore Chapter Committee, Noel Ruane '70 told the audience about the two Shore Chapter scholarships for \$3,000.00 each that were given this year and the intention to hold another *Day at the Races* at Monmouth Park in the late spring. The three winning tickets for the raffle were pulled by the President's husband and Ginny Grezner announced that the raffle had made \$2,000.00 toward future scholarships. Michele Klein was presented with a gift for being such a gracious hostess for the past 10 years.



Members of the class of '73 catch up with their hostess: l.-r. Linda Myers, Patricia Mahan Gmyrek, Lynn Outwater Hayes, Barbara Liedl, Irene Sinteff, Carol Florio Wronko and Michele Paladino Klein.



Several generations of Richardson women enjoyed lunch together: l.-r. Beth Richardson, Nancy Richardson Saggio '92, Mary Richardson '54, Joan Burton Richardson '65 and Betsy Richardson.



Noel Ruane '70, speaking for the Shore Chapter Committee, updated the audience on activities and plans for the coming year.

Young Alumni Summer Social

Summer was in full swing as 35 of Caldwell's young alumni gathered "down the shore" at Bar Anticipation in Lake Como, NJ for the Summer Social on August 8th. An afternoon of all-you-can-eat barbecue, games, prizes, and mingling with alums from Rowan University, Wagner College, and Southeast Conference schools was enjoyed by all who attended. We hope more of you can join us at Bar-A next summer!



Valerie Tandoi, Chris Ilao, Megan Tavis, and Joe Sansevere, all from the class of '06, joined other Caldwell classmates for an afternoon at Bar-A.



Helen Westervelt '80 shows off one of her prizes: an autographed Kite Runner poster and DVD set.

Tricky Tray

It's a Jungle

A change of venue was a "wild" success for this year's Tricky Tray! Many Caldwell alumni were among the crowd of over 400 who followed us from the College campus to the Hanover Manor for the jungle-themed festivities on June 18th.

Hundreds of prizes, from gift certificates to collectibles to a large-screen HDTV, were up for grabs, and the 50/50 raffle yielded its highest-ever total with a prize of over \$3,000. The evening raised a grand total of over \$26,000 to benefit the Alumni Scholarship Fund.



Tricky Tray attendees went wild over this year's assortment of prizes.

2009

Out There!



Grand Prize winner Colin Pierce took home this state-of-the-art HDTV.

We've already reserved Hanover Manor for next year's Tricky Tray, and we've got an exciting outer-space theme planned. Mark your calendars for June 24, 2010!

Pat Murphy McGarrity '60 and Luis Sartorio '09 were among the alumni volunteers on hand to sell tickets and keep the evening running smoothly.



Alumna of the Year

Energized! That's the word that best characterizes the spirit that Kathleen Buse has brought to the Caldwell College Alumni Association.

After receiving her BA in English Literature (cum laude) from Caldwell College, Kathleen traveled to Wisconsin, furthering her study of English Literature and earning her MA from Marquette University. She helped students at Mount Mary College in Wisconsin for over 20 years as a Director of Career Development. Eight years ago, Kathleen came home to Caldwell College to assume the position of Director of Alumni Affairs. Kathleen has gone beyond her job description in planning and organizing activities and events for fellow alumni. Because of her openness to new ideas, creative management, and collegiality, she has generated renewed excitement among alumni.

Her enthusiasm, leadership, and hard work have led to a slew of successes: well-received Homecoming events at Fall Festival, cheering alumni at Caldwell College basketball receptions, happy Tricky Tray winners at the annual gift auction, fun-loving horse race aficionados at A Day at the Races at Monmouth Park, and innovative "young alumni" gatherings.

Utilizing her creative writing talent, Kathleen instituted the *Clarion*, an on-line newsletter, packed with relevant information and invitations for alumni. She also reinvented Echoes, creating a top-quality magazine with interesting and entertaining stories that highlight the many and varied accomplishments of alumni.

Perhaps her greatest achievement resulted from her role in facilitating the activities of the Alumni Board and its subcommittees, in particular the Shore Chapter. Kathleen was also instrumental in making the role of the Alumni Board president more visible. During her tenure, the Alumni Board president was invited to participate in prominent campus committees, campus receptions, and even earned a spot on the Commencement dais.

In Kathleen's own words, "I think I'm most proud of energizing the Board and Shore Chapter and helping them realize their power and ability to achieve very successful activities... Representatives of the Shore Chapter Committee have been added to the Board and we're all working together with a shared sense of mission and goals. And we're having fun doing it!"



For her many contributions, we are proud to present Kathleen Buse with the 2009 Peggy A. Harris Alumna of the Year Award.

Dr. Rosann Bar '82

CALLING CLASS AGENTS FOR HOMECOMING

The Alumni Affairs Office would like to invite a few **members from each anniversary class to work together** on a class list and start early invitation and communication about **Homecoming 2010** (years ending in 0 and 5) and **2011** (years ending in 1 and 6). Many reunion committees are using Facebook and other internet search engines and are having success in locating missing alumni, but it takes months of lead time. **With your help, we can include everyone** in your class and create a more exciting reunion. If you'd like to **help to reach out to classmates**, contact Kathleen Buse at 973-618-3411 or Kbuse@caldwell.edu.

The 2009 Family Legacy Award

The Matuszak Family

At the Homecoming Alumni Awards Reception, the 2009 Family Legacy Award was given to the Matuszak family, specifically Betty Glenn Matuszak '43 and her daughters, BettyAnn Matuszak Howson '69 and Helen Matuszak Fogarty '72. After the citation was read by alumni board member Patricia Flaherty McNeilly '70, Board President Tim Nellegar presented the three alumni with a framed certificate and the traditional inscribed Waterford crystal bowl.

Betty Matuszak was a member of the first class of Caldwell College and was elected to be its first Alumni President, developing the first traditions of the organization. Over the decades following her graduation, she has served on countless committees and has been a constant presence at college and alumni events. She was even asked by the Dominican community to offer a course to the sisters on teaching Family Living and Sex Education when it became state-mandated.

Both BettyAnn and Helen recall coming to campus as children for Easter egg hunts and parties. Like their mother, both graduated from Caldwell with science degrees. BettyAnn pursued a career teaching chemistry and has worked closely with Merck Co. to chair their State Science Day for many years. Helen has enjoyed a



career in the pharmaceutical industry, taking time out to achieve her doctorate in pharmacology.

Both sisters have maintained their Caldwell connection, attending alumni events through the years. Over the past fifteen years, they have taken turns chairing the Veritas Awards Committee, assisting in the selection process, notifying awardees and serving as emcee for the evening. Like their mother, their leadership and loyalty to the College and its alumni have been constant and cheerfully given.

The Alumni Board voted unanimously to give the 2009 Family Legacy Award to the Matuszak family for over six decades and two generations of service, including time, talent and treasure. These three women have been inspiring role models in their professions, their family life, their community, and in their service to Caldwell College.



Members of the Caldwell College Alumni Board turned out in full force for this year's Homecoming. Pictured here with Dr. Nancy H. Blattner are Rosemary Hilbert '96 (Secretary), Roxanne Knott-Kuczborski '03, Mary Sellitto-Curcio '83 (Vice President), Pat Murphy McGarrity '60 (Treasurer), Patricia Flaherty McNeilly '70, Sundra Murray '04, Kathleen Buse '72, Megan Hurley Van Dorn '04, Tim Nellegar '00 (President), and Rosann Rovento Bar '82.



Homecom

On September 26, alumni heeded the call to “Come Together” at Homecoming 2009 amid psychedelic colors, peace signs and abundant daisies. They walked in to an exhibit of paintings by Susan Walsh McLean '59 and music from Broadway, provided by pianist Nicole Burrell '08. After a champagne reception and buffet luncheon, the new College president, Dr. Nancy H. Blattner, was introduced and spoke to alumni for the first time.

Taking advantage of the beautiful fall day, alumni toured the campus, visited the faculty art show and bookstore, or sat out on the plaza to catch up with classmates. The 50th Anniversary Class were feted at their Golden Anniversary Tea while young alumni played wiffle ball on the lawn. A Homecoming Mass, featuring the College Choir, was celebrated by Father Al Berner in the Alumni Theatre.

This year's Homecoming concluded with a cocktail reception where alumni awards were presented. Several anniversary classes planned class dinners at local restaurants and young alumni partied into the late hours at Ringside Pub.



ing 2009



Spotlight on Caldwell Music



The full-time faculty of the Caldwell College music department: Dr. Nan Childress Orchard, Dr. Laura Greenwald, Professor Robert Middleton, and Professor Rebecca Vega.

Over the years, the Caldwell College music department has given students the chance to take the stage as singers, instrumentalists, and leading ladies and men, both on campus and off. The department has produced alumni who have gone on to be Broadway performers like Beth Fowler Witham '62, music teachers like Hae Sook Yook '96 and Dot Cacchio '60, and professional instrumentalists like Erich Paganotti '95. The music department continues to thrive and grow as it provides opportunities for students to become successful performers and educators.

The 23 students who are currently enrolled in the Caldwell College music department's performance and K-12 education degree programs benefit from the professional performing experience that each faculty member brings to the classroom and rehearsal room. Department chair Nan Childress Orchard is a professional pianist whose background includes musical theatre, music criticism, and expertise in the subject of women in music. Laura Greenwald, voice professor and director of the Caldwell College Choir, also specializes in women in music and has been featured in such performances as the South Orange Symphony

Orchestra's Concerto Competition, the University of Miami's Salzburg Seminar, and the Seventh Festival of Women Composers in Pittsburgh. Rob Middleton, director of the Jazz Ensemble and professor of music theory, is an award-winning composer, has performed with jazz greats including Dizzy Gillespie and Wynton Marsalis, and co-directs the jazz group *NewYorkestra*. Rebecca Vega, who directs the Wind Ensemble and Flute Ensemble, has conducted the National High School Honors Flute Choir and performs with Nan Childress Orchard in *Terzetta*, a flute, cello and piano trio, as well as the *Uptown Flutes* ensemble. In addition to these full-time professors, adjunct faculty in the department are also experienced music educators, composers, ensemble directors, and soloists.

Caldwell's music department is also home to two ensembles-in-residence. The *Gramercy Brass Orchestra of New York* runs a summer brass band camp on campus for middle through high school students and hosts brass clinics during the school year for students at Caldwell, as well as area schools. Members of Gramercy Brass serve as adjunct faculty for private lessons. The *Garden State Opera* works with the choir and the Opera and Musical



The Caldwell College Flute Ensemble at the Golden Anniversary Tea at Homecoming.

Theatre workshop to produce an annual performance, like this year's production of Donizetti's *Il Campanello di Notte* and Hindemith's *Mathis Der Maler*. Students have an opportunity to sing not only as members of the opera's chorus, but also as featured performers. In last year's production of *Don Pasquale*, for example, Crystal Boniché '09 and Cara Pernas '10 were both given featured vocal roles.

The music department offers a great selection of performing ensembles for all Caldwell students, regardless of major. The College Choir provides vocal music at campus Masses and celebrations. The College's Wind Ensemble combines the efforts of Caldwell's student instrumentalists and community musicians to perform at events like Commencement and Inauguration. The Jazz Band has provided music for the College's annual Christmas party and Homecoming. Flute students are given the opportunity to play in the Flute Ensemble, which has been featured at the 2009 Presidential Gala, Homecoming, and off-campus at Barnes & Noble and other sites. Students in the Opera and Musical Theater Workshop learn selected scenes and shows to present to appreciative audiences both on and off-campus. All of these ensembles are featured in department concerts each semester. There are also opportunities for solo and small ensemble performances in the Chamber Concerts and Student Showcases that are held throughout the academic year.

Even before students enroll at Caldwell, they can take advantage of an assortment of music department offerings. Each year, the Wind Ensemble invites a select group of local high school musicians to rehearse and perform in their concerts as part of the Honors Band program. Students who hope to become members of New Jersey's prestigious High School Region Bands can attend clinics at Caldwell to hone their skills and gain further insight into the required audition pieces. During

the summer, high school voice students are invited to participate in the Opera Camp, now in its fourth year, and brass players can attend the Gramercy Brass summer workshops.

The music department is also home to the Caldwell College Concert Series, which brings a variety of professional performances to the Caldwell campus each year. This year's Concert Series schedule includes a performance by the *All Seasons Chamber Players*, a recital by pianist/poet *Oni Buchanan* that will feature the works of women composers, and the traditional Christmas Spectacular which brings professional performers together with the Caldwell College Choir and Wind Ensemble. Also, as part of Caldwell's Inaugural celebration this November, the Concert Series will present a *Faculty Favorites* concert, which will feature selections picked and performed by music department faculty.



Students perform a scene in the Opera and Musical Theatre Workshop.

Department chair Nan Childress proudly describes today's music department as "a vibrant and growing program that promotes music to the College, as well as the outside community, by developing students' musicianship and artistic abilities through meaningful coursework and performance experience." With an emphasis on individual attention and numerous opportunities for performance, Caldwell's music department is an excellent place for students of all majors to learn and grow.

Megan Hurley Van Dorn '04
Project Manager, Alumni Affairs

If you know a student who is interested in pursuing a music major, or if you'd like to find out more information about department programs, please visit www.caldwell.edu/academics/music.

25th Anniversary of Veritas Awards Dinner

The Veritas Awards Dinner will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year on March 26, 2010 at the Essex Fells Country Club in Essex Fells, NJ. This year the College honors three distinguished alumni, Mary Jo Rolli Codey '77, Nancy Costello Miller, Esq. '79 and Edward Collins '98, who join the 72 previous recipients.

Mary Jo Codey '77 will receive an award for Excellence in Mental Health Advocacy. In 1994 Mary Jo pioneered a post-partum support group at St. Barnabas Medical Center. As First Lady of the State of New Jersey, she welcomed the opportunity to advocate on behalf of the Governor's newly-created Task Force on Mental Health. She helped launch a statewide campaign offering evidence-based data on post-partum depression, as well as screening and medical resources for women, their families and health care professionals. Mary Jo also raised awareness by sharing her story through public appearances and interviews and made several trips to Capitol Hill in support of national legislation on this issue.

Mary Jo also helped to launch a statewide fundraising campaign in support of breast cancer awareness and early detection. She is currently a member of both the New Jersey Education Association and the President's Advisory Council of Postpartum Support International. Mary Jo has enjoyed a career in education and currently teaches basic skills at an elementary school in West Orange, NJ.

Nancy Costello Miller, Esq. '79 will receive an award for Excellence in Jurisprudence. Nancy is the Senior Deputy Attorney General in the State of New Jersey Department of Law and Safety in Newark, NJ where she represents the state with particular emphasis on administrative law. She is primary counsel for NJ Board of Dentistry where she provides services related to licensing and disciplinary matters, regulatory initiatives and counsel for the Alternative Dispute Resolution Unit. Previous assignments have included Counsel to the Board of Social Work Examiners, the Bureau of Securities, Office of Consumer Protection, Legalized Game of Chance Control Commission, Office of Consumer Protection, New Jersey Cemetery Board, the Lemon Law Unit, and the Board of Public Utilities.

Nancy has been a member of the Board of Trustees for the Tenafly Nature Center and the Tenakill Swim Club and has volunteered at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Tenafly and the Center for Food Action in Englewood. She has served on the Caldwell College Board of Trustees since 2003 and on the Alumni Board as Trustee Rep from 2006-2009.

Edward Collins '98 will receive an award for Excellence in Financial Management. Combining his passion for entrepreneurship and love of finance, Ed founded Collins Wealth Management in 1998 to assist clients in developing a strategic plan of action regarding their financial lives. After achieving advanced accreditation in several areas of money management, Ed decided to merge Collins Wealth Management and the Lambert Financial Group. In 2008, Artisan Wealth Management was formed in Lebanon, NJ, providing financial guidance to high net worth families, business leaders and successful professionals across the country.

For the past 11 years, Ed has served as Trustee and Treasurer of the Brian C. Kull Memorial Foundation that issues scholarships to students who demonstrate excellence in service, leadership and fellowship within their community. He has participated in Chambers of Commerce in New Jersey and Georgia and has served for six years on the Caldwell College Business Advisory Council. Ed recently joined the Caldwell College Board of Trustees and Alumni Board as Trustee Rep.



For more information about the Veritas Awards Dinner, contact Kathleen Buse at 973-618-3411 or Kbuse@caldwell.edu or visit the college website at www.caldwell.edu/alumni and click on "Events."

Click on Caldwell Connections!

Social networking websites have made it so much easier for everyone to connect, and Caldwell alumni are no exception! Whether you're expanding your social circle with your Facebook profile or making professional connections on LinkedIn, you can try out these great ways to get back in touch and keep tabs on the latest from Caldwell College.



- On **Facebook**, type in **Caldwell College Young Alumni** in the Search bar to join the more than 200 members of our official Young Alumni group. Once you've joined, you'll get the latest news for recent graduates, as well as invitations to Young Alumni events throughout the year.

- Facebook users from all graduating classes can also become a fan of the **Caldwell College Alumni** page to stay updated, reunite with classmates, and discuss Homecoming plans.



- If you're connected to **LinkedIn**, look for us on our **Caldwell College Alumni** group. This group provides a wealth of networking opportunities, discussion boards, job postings, news, and invitations to upcoming professional events for alumni.

- No Facebook or LinkedIn? No problem! Check out the Caldwell College Alumni webpage at www.caldwell.edu/alumni for everything you need to know, including online events registration and a place to update your information and submit Class Notes.

Sponsor a Student



"Jo is my guardian angel and the support Jo has given me has helped beyond words."

Josephine "Jo" Mastandrea '57 used to donate to "big charities" but felt that she didn't know

"Christine is very committed to her education and represents to me the reason why Caldwell was founded by the Dominican sisters."

where her money was going. She decided she would rather give an education to a student with the hope that the student would "pass it on." For the last two years, she has helped

current Caldwell College student, Christine Dabrowski, to achieve her educational goals.

If you would like to connect with a student who needs your help, contact Sharon Dwyer at 973-618-3207 or e-mail sdwyer@caldwell.edu.

You can also send donations to:

Sponsor A Student, Caldwell College, 120 Bloomfield Avenue, Caldwell, NJ 07006.

We're Proud Of...

Michelle Stefanelli '79

Michelle Stefanelli's organizational skills were evident as early as sophomore year at Caldwell when she and her Gamma Theta Lambda sisters organized the first Caldwell fundraiser. They ran a hair marathon offering haircuts in the Student Center, brought in Harry Chapin to play in the Lounge, and turned Millie's Place into a temporary bar with beer donated from the Cloverleaf Restaurant. She remains proud of the \$20,000.00 that they raised for the College and the personal realization that she wanted to create ways to help the community.

After completing her BA in Sociology at Caldwell, Michelle pursued a Master's in Social Work from Rutgers University and, later, a DBA in Health Care Administration. She accepted a position as Social Worker at Columbus Hospital and after a year became the Assistant Director of Social Services. Over her 20-year career at Columbus, Michelle served on the first AIDS Task Force in Newark and was one of the first female chairpersons of the hospital board. When the hospital closed, she worked for a time as President and CEO of the statewide program, Hospice in NJ, before deciding to go into government work.

In 2002, she began her career with the Department of Veterans Affairs as the Patient Care Social Work Coordinator for the VA New Jersey Health Care System (VANJHCS). In that position, she oversaw the clinical management of two campuses and acted as the Social Work Executive for one year. She also established the first inpatient hospice for the VANJHCS.

Through her efforts, the VANJHCS was acknowledged as a "Best Practice" by the Veterans Health Administration Virtual Learning Center for the Iraqi Freedom Program. The development of community resources and education is part of this program, which was the inception of the Statewide Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom Task Force Committee. In addition to healthcare, this program arranges for care packages for troops, Thanksgiving turkeys to veterans and works with the Department of Higher Education to facilitate educational opportunities under the GI Bill. The development of this program for the Transition Units as a "One Stop Shopping Concept" has been nationally recognized and is one of three programs in the country recommended for implementation throughout VA.



Michelle holds a seat on the Governor's Yellow Ribbon Committee which is in partnership with the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. She also serves on the Coaching and Mentoring Committee for the National VA Program through the VA Central Office Advisory Board. In 2004, Michelle received the Woman of the Year Award from the Italian Tribune and has also received the Federal Executive Board of Metropolitan Northern New Jersey Outstanding Employee of the Year Award. She has volunteered locally for the Pia Costa Foundation, the Italian Tribune Scholarship Fund, the Red Cross and PAWS.

VETERANS CAN ATTEND TUITION FREE!

Caldwell College's partnership with the US Department of Veteran Affairs (Post 9/11 GI Bill Yellow Ribbon program) allows qualified military veterans to attend Caldwell College tuition free and receive funds for books and housing. For information on eligibility, visit www.gibill.va.gov. Please contact Tom Disch at (973-618-3216 or tdisch@caldwell.edu) at the Caldwell College Center for Graduate & Continuing Studies for information on admission to Caldwell College.

TRICKY TRAY GIFT AUCTION

THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2010

Hanover Manor, East Hanover, NJ



Doors open at 6 PM • Auction begins at 8 PM

GENERAL ADMISSION: \$35 • ALUMNI: \$30

Includes salad, pasta, choice of entree, soft drinks, coffee, dessert, & starter sheet of tickets. CASH BAR.

LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE!

SAVE TIME... pre-order your VALUE PACKS!

(3 sheets of Tier I tickets, 10 Super Prize tickets, and 1 Grand Prize ticket. A \$45 value for \$40 per pack!)

To Register: Fill out the form below for check or credit card orders and mail to:

Caldwell College Office of Alumni Affairs • 120 Bloomfield Avenue, Caldwell, NJ 07006

Or **register online!** Visit www.caldwell.edu/alumni and click on "Events".

For additional information contact Megan Van Dorn • Alumni Project Manager • 973-618-3582

TRICKY TRAY GIFT AUCTION - REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s): _____ Class of: _____ Phone Number: _____

Reservations: _____ @ _____ = _____ Value Packs: _____ @ \$ 40 each = _____
Quantity Price Total Quantity Total

Names for Value Packs: _____

_____ Check _____ MasterCard _____ Visa _____ American Express _____ Discover

Credit Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Tickets will not be mailed. Your name will be registered and checked at the door. Your cancelled check is your receipt.

Attendees under 21 years of age cannot participate in the auction or raffle.

The Dominican Connection



It was my third year as a graduate student in the Master of Arts in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) program at Caldwell College. The time had finally come for me to develop a research study for

my thesis that would make a difference in the lives of individuals with autism and contribute to what we know about ABA teaching procedures. Inspiration for my thesis finally came to me on a Sunday morning while I was sitting in Mass. As I looked around the church, I began to wonder about how difficult it must be for parents of children with autism to share Mass as a family. Then it hit me--something had to be done to help families touched by autism to attend Mass. The following week in class, I proposed the idea to my professor and advisor Dr. Sharon Reeve. It then became our mission to use learning principles of ABA to teach children with autism to attend Mass.

Four families who had children diagnosed with autism excitedly consented to have their children participate in my study. These families had experienced difficulty trying to attend Mass with their children for various reasons. I quickly met with the families to listen to their personal goals for their children's participation in the faith community. It was decided that teaching the children to simply attend Mass would help their families to go to church together on Sunday. In addition, it would give a great opportunity to these children to participate in their local community.

At the completion of my study, all four children had successfully learned to attend Mass. The church community was very welcoming and supportive throughout my study. Parishioners and church ushers interacted with the children during the Mass. In addition, two of the children began imitating the behavior of other parishioners in the congregation by sitting, standing, and kneeling at the appropriate times. Some of the children also initiated shaking another parishioner's hand and saying, "Peace be with you". These additional behaviors were learned by simply attending Mass, observing, and imitating the parishioners who were surrounding them. Attending Mass increased the children's opportunities to engage in social

interactions and learn new social skills, which may further lead to building friendships with others in the future. Participating in Mass also provided an opportunity for the children to become a part of a community.

As a result of my study, we have now developed a number of teaching strategies to help children with autism to attend Mass with their families. I have shared my findings at various conferences and have met other individuals with the same mission. One very gratifying result of my research is that Dr. Reeve and I are currently working on a Professional Advisory Board in the Newark Archdiocese to develop additional teaching procedures to allow individuals with autism to attend Mass.

The professors in the ABA program at Caldwell College have supported me throughout my graduate experience. I give them a great deal of credit for helping me develop into a competent professional in the field of ABA. The professional skills that I have learned from them continue to give me many opportunities to inform others about my work to include individuals with autism in the church community. In addition, I will continue to increase autism awareness in the faith community and implement additional ways for families of autistic individuals to participate.

I am excited to see what the future holds and am sure that we can continue to make significant positive changes in the lives of families that have been touched with autism.

Jessica Rothschild '08



In Memory of

*Please
remember
these
deceased
alumni
and family
members in
your prayers.*

John R. Blount

Father of Ellen Blount Peterson '73

Jeanette Dombrowski Bogucki '49

Carol Bowler

Best friend of Dot Cacchio '60

Anthony DeBarros

Husband of Peggy McCarter '74

Brother-in-law of Anne McCarter Sealander '64

Daniel Joseph Donahue

Father of Donna Donahue Schrader '72

Sister Maureen James Fahey, O.P. '62

Helen Fenty

Sister of Sister Margaret Thomas McGovern, O.P. '61

Eleanor Fields

Mother of Ellen Fields Hauser '68

William Gombka

Husband of Elisabeth Jacobsen Gombka '63

Brother-in-law of Linda Jacobsen Szipszky '59

Ann Hvizdak

Mother of Janet Hvizdak Cutro '71

Sister Mary Alphonsus Kennedy, RSM '43

Norman Kudlick

Husband of Catherine Oehler Kudlick '50

John Kunka

Father of Jane Kunka '88

Mary Katherine Ladany

Daughter of Mary Ladany '04

Philip A. Malanga

Father of Carrieann Malanga Lazzizzera '97

Dana Trinise Curtis Marquez '86

Anne S. Mastandrea

Sister of Josephine Mastandrea '57

Barbara McMackin Matto '63

Vincent Neglia

Husband of Nina Neglia '89

James Reinhold

Husband of Camille Cronin-Reinhold '81

'61 Sister Margaret Thomas McGovern, O.P. received the Benemerenti Medal for Religious Men and Women in September 2009. The medal is conferred on those who have exhibited long and exceptional service to the Catholic Church, their families and community. It was presented during Evening Prayer on the occasion of the Conferral of Papal Honors at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark, NJ.



Sister Margaret Thomas McGovern, O.P.

'66 Linda Sue Galate, Ph.D. presented her research explaining an aspect of figural representation found in the Roman catacombs at the Society of Biblical Literature international meeting in Rome, Italy, marking the 400th anniversary of the Gregorian University. Dr. Galate presented her preliminary research at the SBL meeting in Baltimore, MD.

'70 Mary Anne Perrotta has received the 2009 Teacher That Makes The Grade Award from KTU 103.5 FM Radio and Huntington Learning Centers. She has taught for over 30 years in the Nutley, NJ school district and received a standing ovation at the awards assembly attended by students, parents, and fellow teachers.

'70 Kate Walter received a Best Column award from the state-wide New York Press Association for her 2008 writing in *The Villager*, a weekly newspaper in Manhattan. An English major, Kate started her writing career as a contributor to the Caldwell Kettle and cites Dr. Lindroth's Advanced Composition course as an important early influence.

'71 Antoinette Magaletta McClure retired in 2008 after teaching special-needs children for 33 ½ years. She is an enamelist, and her work is available at www.rainmakerdesigns.com. Antoinette credits Ugo Giannini, Theo Victoria, and Sister Gerardine for helping her start out in the world of art.

'76 Donna Ruccia Thompson has received the 2009 Business Woman of the Year from the Essex County chapter of the New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners (NJAWBO). The award is given in recognition of accomplishments in her business, her work in NJAWBO, and in her community. Donna is the president and owner of drtEnterprises, a publishing company in Cedar Grove, NJ, as well as the senior editor of inBiz Magazine, published by Vicinity Media Group of Fairfield, NJ.



Donna Ruccia Thompson

'89 Holley Pertgen Adams and her husband adopted their son, Enrique Matthew, in December 2007.

'92 Michael Stillman is proud to announce the publication of his first novel, *Proxy Wars: The Business of War*, which is currently available through Amazon.com. The book is the first installment of the *Proxy Wars* military fiction series. Michael is currently working on the second installment, in addition to developing ideas for two other books.

'94 Kathleen Serino-Panzica has been named 2009 Mother of the Year by the Columbus, Ohio Mothers of Twins Club. She has served as the club's chair of family activities, as well as vice-president. Kathleen and her husband, Tony, are the proud parents of Vincent and Brianna.

'95 Wendy Raso Bruffy received her master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Scranton in May 2009. She received the Academic Award for Excellence for maintaining a 4.0 GPA. Wendy is now enrolled in a doctoral program at Northeastern University in Boston. She is a biology teacher

Notes

at West Essex Regional High School in North Caldwell, NJ and is the mother of 5 children, ages 2 to 12.



Wendy Raso Bruffy

'96 **Veronica Pocsik Hupper** and her husband, Brian, welcomed their second daughter in April 2009. Rose Joyce Hupper joins big sister Mary, age 2 ½.



Rose Joyce Hupper

'98 **Sharon Birchler Mulhern** and her husband, Michael, are the proud new parents of Lilly Anne Mulhern, born in June 2009. The Mulherns live in Glen Rock, NJ.



Lilly Anne Mulhern

'00 **Joseph Kane** announces his engagement to Megan Oden in June 2009. Joseph is a 7th grade math teacher in Florida, and Megan works at Walt Disney World, which is where they met. An April 2011 wedding in Florida is being planned.

'02 **Rosey Sousa Thompson** received her master's degree in Reading Specialization from Kean University in May 2009. She works as a second-grade teacher in Florence, NJ.



Rosey Sousa Thompson

'03 **Nancy Boccanfuso** and **Kevin Walsh** got engaged in March 2009. An August 2011 wedding is being planned. Kevin is an apprentice at the Passaic Valley Sewage Commission. Nancy is an Aquatics Coordinator at the YMCA in Livingston, NJ.

'03 **Mary-Kathryn Hogan** and Daniel Frank were married in May 2008 at St. Theresa Church in Hellertown, PA. **Laura Walsh Law** was a bridesmaid and **Stephanie Villari** was in attendance. Mary-Kathryn is a pre-kindergarten teacher in Allentown, PA, and Daniel works for Aetna. The couple honeymooned through Europe and now reside in Allentown, PA.

Jen Curcia Marisi gave birth to a baby girl named Aria Emily in November 2008 in Camden, NJ. Jen recently graduated from Wilmington University with a Master's Degree in Applied Technology in Education.



Aria Emily Marisi

Amy Rojas announces the opening of her own private dental office, Allure Dental Aesthetics, in Teaneck, NJ. Amy graduated from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in 2007 and completed her dental residency program at Mountainside Hospital in Montclair, NJ.

Class Notes

'03 Chris Suria and Dennia Rentzis were married in June 2009. Their reception was held at the Highlawn Pavilion in West Orange, NJ. Chris is currently the manager of Grove Pharmacy in Montclair, NJ. Dennia is a graduate of William Paterson University with a degree in Women's Studies, and she is currently the Coordinator of Admissions at Essex County College in West Caldwell, NJ.



Chris Suria and Dennia Rentzis

'04 Christina Kovacs and her husband Jason Billé announce the birth of their daughter, Charlotte Adelaide, in March 2009 at St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, NJ. Charlotte joins big sister Isabella Alivia, age 2.



Charlotte Adelaide Billé

'04 Antonella Mongioi completed her master's degree in special education at Caldwell College in May 2009.



Antonella Mongioi

Chanice Reid was one of 12 outstanding active-duty enlisted professionals honored at the Air Force Space Command's Outstanding Airmen of the Year 2008 competition at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado. Chanice is an Air Force Airman 1st Class and a senior missile chief for the 10th Missile Squadron at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls, MT.

Louis Sanchez and Armine Bojikyán were married in March 2009 at St. Thomas Parish in Brigantine, NJ.



Louis and Armine Bojikyán Sanchez

'05 Diana Riveros and **Manuel Abril** announce their engagement. The proposal took place in New York's Central Park on a romantic horse carriage ride in July 2009. The couple met at Caldwell in 2001. A September 2010 wedding is being planned.

'06 Sarah Palmer and **Matthew Hall** were married in July 2009 in High Bridge, NJ. The couple met in the fall of 2004 in class. In attendance at the wedding were **Megan Tavis '06, Erin Wood '06, Erin Conway '06, and Jonathan Vaneekhoven '07**. Sarah recently graduated from Seton Hall University with her MA in English and currently teaches at Voorhees High School in Glen Gardner, NJ. Matthew is the Director of Outreach for Congressman Rush Holt.



Matthew and Sarah Palmer Hall

Golden Anniversary Class – 1959



The Golden Girls: Seated, l.-r. Patt Cleary, Mary Ann Agro, Angela Pennisi, Nancy Fitzsimmons, Ginger Gruenling, and Sr. Miriam Cannavale, O.P. Second row, l.-r. Sr. Agnes Bernard Duggan, O.P., Pat Evert, Cathy Jackson, Pat Jackson, Dorothy Williams, Peggy Mitchell, Jeanne Feyedelem and Joan McGovern. Back row, l.-r. Ginny Rizzotti, Mary Lou Moore, Kitty Colbert, Linda Szipszky, Dot Tarloski, Mary Ann Giovacco, Joann Schembri, Margie Lee, Bobbie Mayer and Susan Walsh. Not pictured: Rosemary Warren and Cynthia Salzano.

CLASS NOTES SUBMISSION FORM

Have you recently said, “I do”? Welcomed a new baby? Changed jobs? Been promoted? Received an award? Moved to a new home? Surprise your classmates and help us keep up to date on your accomplishments.

Mail to: Director of Alumni Affairs
Caldwell College • 120 Bloomfield Avenue • Caldwell, New Jersey 07006-6195

Or e-mail to: echoes@caldwell.edu

Or use the Alumni Information Update Form at: <http://www.caldwell.edu/alumni>

Note: Printed photos included with submissions may not be returned. Digital photos should be shot at a 300 dpi setting. Class Notes may be edited for space and style.

Name _____ Birth Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

E-mail address _____ Class Year _____

Your Note _____



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120 Bloomfield Avenue
Caldwell, New Jersey 07006-6195

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Mark Your Calendar!

FRIDAY
December 11, 2009

Christmas Spectacular
Caldwell College Student Center Gym
For more information, contact Laura Greenwald at 973-618-3520.

FRIDAY
March 26, 2010

Veritas Awards Dinner
Essex Fells Country Club, Essex Fells, NJ
For more information, contact Kathleen Buse at 973-618-3411.

THURSDAY
June 24, 2010

Tricky Tray Gift Auction
Hanover Manor, East Hanover, NJ
For more information, contact Megan Van Dorn at 973-618-3582.