

# Hollins News Flash - December 2008

## Campus



### **\$3 Million Gift for Batten Leadership Institute**

**Jane Parke Batten '58 and her husband, Frank,** a former Hollins trustee, have once again demonstrated their remarkable commitment to Hollins with a major financial gift.

In support of [The Hollins Campaign for Women Who Are Going Places](#), the largest comprehensive fundraising campaign in the university's history, the Battens have presented a gift of \$3 million to further endow the school's leadership program that bears their name.

Hollins' [Batten Leadership Institute](#), which the family's generosity helped to create in 2002, provides rigorous co-curricular programs that focus on students' personal, interpersonal, and intellectual development.

"This gift typifies the Battens' firm belief in this signature program and the enormous impact it is making in the lives of young women," said President Nancy Gray. "These funds will further enhance the institute's unique approach, which focuses on the idea that each woman's leadership abilities begin with developing a strong sense of self, combined with skill development, mentoring, and real world leadership projects, both on campus and off.

"In short, this gift will create even more opportunities for women to lead," she concluded. "And the fact that it comes during this period of global economic uncertainty is a tremendous vote of confidence for Hollins and its ability to manage these fiscal challenges."

### **Belk Challenge Benefits Study Abroad**

Hollins has accepted a challenge from the John M. Belk Educational Endowment to raise \$500,000 by March 31, 2009, in order to receive a matching grant of the same amount.



**Claudia Watkins Belk '60** (pictured with President Gray), a Hollins Trustee since 2000, committed to give the funds to the scholarship endowment established in her name last year by her late husband, John Montgomery Belk, **provided Hollins is successful in raising an equal amount in gifts and pledges by March 31, 2009.**

The Claudia Watkins Belk International Scholars Endowment offers deserving Hollins students the opportunity to study abroad for a semester or a year, participate in an international experience during the university's January Short Term, or engage in community service or career internship placements abroad.

### **Make your gift to the Hollins Fund today!**

The calendar year is coming to a close - make your gift by December 31 to count in the 2008 tax year.

> [Give Online](#)

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### **Send Your Daughter (or Son) on Hollins Abroad**

Through [Hollins Abroad](#) programs in [London](#) and [Paris](#), daughters (or sons, sisters, brothers, cousins, or friends' children) who are attending other colleges can study in England or France and get a flavor of the inimitable Hollins experience.

[Hollins Abroad](#) programs

"This important gift and the original gift made by John Belk in Claudia's honor in 2007 will help make international study available for more students who want the experience," says President Gray. "We are very excited about the impact the fund is already having. Additional funding for this program could truly bring us closer to achieving Claudia's dream of providing an international study experience for every student."

**Gifts to any of Hollins' international study initiatives will count toward the challenge.**

> [Read more](#)

### Professor Sampon-Nicolas Honored by French Government for Contributions to Language, Culture



**Professor of French Annette Sampon-Nicolas** has been named Knight of the Order of Academic Palms (Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques) by France's Ministry of National Education for her exceptional record of teaching, publication, and promotion of French culture through a multitude of activities.

The award was originally established in 1808 by Napoleon Bonaparte to honor eminent members of the University of Paris. Today, nominees are presented to the Prime Minister of France, who, if she or he is in agreement, issues an official proclamation designating recipients.

Sampon-Nicolas, who earned her Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and specializes in 20th century French and post-colonial Francophone literature, has been a member of the Hollins faculty since 1985, and is the current Elisabeth Lineberger Ramberg Chair in Modern Languages.

> [Read more](#)

## Alumnae/i



### Athletic Hall of Fame Seeking Nominations

Established in 1994, the Athletic Hall of Fame honors members of the Hollins community (alumnae and faculty) who have demonstrated superior athletic accomplishments at Hollins, as well as sportsmanship, character, and leadership at Hollins and/or in their community.

Induction of new members takes place at Alumnae Reunion each year.

accept visitor students from other colleges and universities across the country. For more information, contact Kirsten McKinney at (800) 511-6612 or [kmckinney1@hollins.edu](mailto:kmckinney1@hollins.edu).



### Quad Quote

"Hollins is grateful for the many generous contributions made during the 'quiet phase' of this campaign. Now we will be seeking support from the entire Hollins family. As much as we need major gifts, those of five figures or more are beyond the capacity of most people. Still, [everyone can make an annual gift to the Hollins Fund](#), and [everyone can put Hollins in her will](#)."

- Campaign Chair  
Wyndham Robertson '58  
> [Read more](#)

### Links of Interest

[NEW - Giving Web site](#)

[NEW - Campaign Web site](#)

[Alumnae Web site](#)

[Update Your Info Online](#)

[Online Alumnae/i Directory](#)

[Archives of News Flash](#)

**Nominations are due by February 15 for new members to be inducted at Reunion 2009, May 29-31.**

- [Current members](#)
- [Nomination Form](#) (PDF)

Please return the form and additional information if desired by February 15 to: Athletic Hall of Fame Nomination, Alumnae Relations, Hollins University, P.O. Box 9629, Roanoke, VA 24020-1629, fax: (540) 362-6297, e-mail [alumnae@hollins.edu](mailto:alumnae@hollins.edu).

(Pictured: 2008 Hall of Fame Inductees: Laming, McCullough, Lynch, Casillas; not pictured: Beedie, Grill - posthumous)

### Recent Alumnae Accomplishments



**Margaret Dickerson de Heinrich '96** and her Budapest, Hungary, based spa and skincare line were featured in the September 2008 issue of *W* magazine. Prior to her skincare business, de Heinrich was a diplomat serving as Special Assistant to U.S. Ambassador Brinker and then as Chief of Staff to the U.S. Ambassador to the European Union. While in Budapest, she and her husband noticed the unique benefits of the Hungarian thermal waters and now use them as the base of their product range.

**Annette Polan '67**, an internationally known portrait artist, received Hollins' Distinguished Alumnae Award at the *1842 Society* weekend held in Washington, D.C., in November. Polan conceived and organized *Faces of the Fallen: America's Artists Honor America's Heroes*, an award-winning exhibition of original portraits of the 1,323 American service men and women who lost their lives in Afghanistan and Iraq between 2001 and 2004. For her efforts, Polan received the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Outstanding Public Service Award, one of the highest honorary awards for recognition of exceptional public service. Polan served as chair of the painting department at the Corcoran College of Art and Design, where she currently serves as a professor specializing in portraiture. She has painted the official portraits of leaders of industry and government as well as Hollins' tenth president, Nora Kizer Bell. (Photo by Taisie Berkeley '70)



**Hollinsummer is Coming! Save the date: July 12 - 24, 2009**

Do you have a daughter, niece, granddaughter, or babysitter who would love to spend a few weeks living and learning at Hollins?

Hollinsummer is a two-week program that gives high school girls a taste of college life. Students take two noncredit classes, live on campus with girls from all over the country, and enjoy a full roster of extracurricular activities. More information to come!

### Quick Hitters

[New Admissions Website](#)

[Hollins Alumnae Awards](#)

[Seeking Copies of Hollins Columns](#)

## Students / Faculty

### Fencing Team Wins Foil Championship

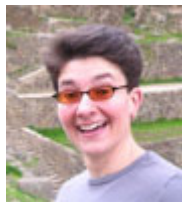
The Hollins University fencing club team made a triumphant return to South Atlantic Conference competition, winning the Women's Foil Championship in Atlanta November 9. Hollins topped club teams from eight major universities, including Georgia Tech, Florida,



**The Hollins Campaign**

Clemson, South Florida, Florida State, and Tennessee, in its first SAC event in five years.

### Faculty Highlights



**Michelle Ann Abate, assistant professor of English**, was an invited speaker at the conference, "Kidding Around: The Child in Film and Media," which was held at the University of the District of Columbia. Her talk was entitled "One State, Two State, Red State, Blue State: Bringing Partisan Politics to Picture Books in Katharine DeBrecht's Help! Mom! Series."



**Assistant Professor of Communication Studies Vladimir Bratic** just published a co-authored paper in the fall 2008 issue of Global Media Journal entitled, "Bosnia's Open Broadcast Network: A Brief but Illustrative Foray into Peace Journalism Practice." The article can be read at [http://lass.calumet.purdue.edu/cca/gmj/fa08/gmj-fa08-](http://lass.calumet.purdue.edu/cca/gmj/fa08/gmj-fa08-TOC.htm)

[TOC.htm](http://lass.calumet.purdue.edu/cca/gmj/fa08/gmj-fa08-TOC.htm).



**Professor of Political Science Jong Ra** recently attended the 2008 American Political Science Association to take part in the Association Board Meeting of the AKPS. He was also recently a discussant in four panels on Northeast Asian security issues at a conference sponsored by the ICKS, Peace and Security Policy Studies group, and the Heritage Foundation. On October 14, he delivered the keynote address to some 100 attendees at the 42nd Annual Convention of the Virginia Cable Telecommunications

Association (VCTA) at Hotel Roanoke. He discussed selected procedural issues of presidential elections.

### Spinster Looking for Alumnae Photos and Stories

Jessica Donaldson, Clubs Editor for the 2008-2009 Hollins Spinster, is looking for alumnae photos and stories. The theme for the yearbook this year is "Heritage" and as a part of that theme, students want to include photos and stories from alumnae about their time at Hollins. As the Clubs Editor, Jessica is particularly interested in hearing about clubs to which people belonged. However, the yearbook will use quotes and pictures throughout and would appreciate anything you wish to share. If you have photos or stories to submit, please e-mail them to [spinster@hollins.edu](mailto:spinster@hollins.edu) or [jdonaldson@hollins.edu](mailto:jdonaldson@hollins.edu) along with the date of the items, the full names of those quoted or pictured, and their class years. Please submit items no later than March 13, 2009. Thank you!

### for Women Who Are Going Places

The largest fundraising campaign in Hollins' history ~ [Learn how you can make an impact on Hollins' future](#)

## A Texas Sized Challenge for Hollins Alumnae and Friends

Texas philanthropist and Hollins son and grandson Robert Priddy of Wichita Falls has issued a **challenge to all Texas alumnae, graduate alumni, current and past parents, and friends to raise \$100,000 in new gifts to the Hollins Fund by December 31, 2010.** If we are successful, Mr. Priddy will match that amount, dollar for dollar, up to \$100,000. (*Illustration from 1906 Spinster*)



> [Read more about the Texas Challenge](#)

## 1842 Society Weekend a Success



Members of the *1842 Society* enjoyed a special weekend of tours and events in our nation's capital in November, including a candlelit dinner at Mount Vernon Inn. Pictured are Boyce Lineberger Ansley '68, Regent of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association who arranged the private tour of George

Washington's estate, with President Gray and Lynn Farrar '78, former Alumnae Board president. Mark your calendar for next year's *1842 Society* weekend: **September 25-27, 2009, in Chicago**

> [Learn more about the 1842 Society](#)

## Your IRA Makes it Easy to Give to Hollins



Included in the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 is an extension of the Pension Protection Act provisions that expired in 2007. These provisions have been extended through the end of 2009.

What this means for Hollins is that the owner of a traditional or Roth IRA, who is 70 1/2 or older, may instruct the trustee of their IRA to distribute **directly to Hollins up to \$100,000** (in both 2008 and 2009) **without the distribution being included in taxable income.** This distribution will count toward the IRA owner's mandatory withdrawal amount. The gift must be outright; rollovers to a planned gift, such as a gift annuity or charitable remainder trust, do not qualify.

Take advantage of this opportunity to make a difference to Hollins. For further details, please contact your financial advisor or Diane Markert at

[dmarkert@hollins.edu](mailto:dmarkert@hollins.edu).

> [Learn more about Planned Giving](#)

## Upcoming Events

### Alumnae Events

**January 8, 2009: Raleigh Triangle Alumnae Chapter J-Term Event**

**January 9, 2009: Atlanta Alumnae Chapter First Fabulous Winter Fete**



**January 14, 2009: Hampton Roads Alumnae Chapter J-Term Event**

**January 15, 2009: Tinker Mountain Alumnae Chapter (Roanoke Area) J-Term Event**

**January 21, 2009: Horizon Alumnae and Students Reception at the President's House**

**January 22, 2009: Richmond Alumnae Chapter J-Term Event**

**January TBA: D.C. Alumnae Chapter Annual Post-Holiday Party**

**SAVE THE DATE ~ May 29-31, 2009: Reunion 2009**

### Campaign Events

**January 12, 2009: Jacksonville, Florida**

**January 14, 2009: Birmingham, Alabama**

**January 22, 2009: New York City**

### Campus Events

- [Exhibits in the Wilson Museum](#)

- [Music Events](#)

- [Roanoke Regional Writers Conference](#)

**SAVE THE DATE: March 25-26, 2009**

Conference on Role Models for a New Century: Women and Leadership in Science and Mathematics