

Hollins News Flash for March 2005

### **Campus News**

#### **Hollins Professor, Alumnae Recognize Faces of the Fallen**

Annette Polan, a well-known Washington, D.C. portrait artist and a member of the class of 1967 at Hollins, is the organizer and co-chair of [Faces of the Fallen](#), a national exhibit of portraits of America's military heroes, opening March 23 at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. Polan was inspired to create this project after seeing newspaper photos and stories about the American service men and women who lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan. She recruited the artists, including Hollins Professor of Art Bill White and Hollins alumnae Taisie Berkeley '70 and Mary Page Hilliard Evans '59. Polan and the Washington, D.C. Area Advisory Board have orchestrated a very special event for Hollins at the Faces of the Fallen exhibit on [Wednesday, May 4](#).

#### **Inauguration Set for Fall; Family Weekend Moved**

The inauguration of [Nancy Oliver Gray](#) as Hollins University's eleventh president will take place Friday, October 14, 2005. [Family Weekend](#) has been re-scheduled to October 14-16 to give us a full weekend of celebration. Mark your calendar today!

### **Funding Updates**

#### **Gift Report Online**

For the first time ever, Hollins' Annual Report on Giving is on the Web. The direct link is: <http://www.hollins.edu/alumnae/giftreport04.pdf>

The 2003-2004 report recognizes gifts made to Hollins from July 1, 2003, through June 30, 2004. We're very grateful to all alumnae, parents, and friends who give so generously to Hollins. If you have any questions, please contact Laura Tuggle Anderson '98 at [ltanderson@hollins.edu](mailto:ltanderson@hollins.edu).

#### **Starkie House to become Swannanoa Hall**

Robert and Ruby Priddy of Wichita Falls, Texas, have given \$1.27 million to restore and renovate Starkie House from a residence hall to a home for the [English and creative writing program](#). Swannanoa Hall will be named in tribute to Swannanoa Horne Priddy, Mr. Priddy's mother and a member of Hollins' Class of 1911. The renovation is scheduled for the summer of 2005 and will include: developing office space, classrooms, and seminar areas for the English and creative writing department; upgrading the building's electrical system to provide air conditioning; increasing accessibility within the facility with an elevator and other improvements; and repairing and strengthening the building's envelope and structure.

#### **Kenan Challenge Creates New Music Endowment**

The William R. Kenan, Jr. Music Endowment Fund was established by alumnae and friends giving generously, successfully matching a \$500,000 challenge grant to create the first \$1 million music endowment at Hollins. The endowment will ensure approximately \$50,000 per year for the music program. Initially, income from the endowment will be used to replace and refurbish pianos and other instruments. Eventually, the Kenan Music Endowment will also support other activities of the [music department](#).

### **Students and Faculty**

**Zirwat Chowdhury '05** is one of six students accepted to Northwestern University's art history Ph.D. program next year. She is a double major in art history/economics.

**Rayane Kahlil '05** has been accepted at three of the top public health graduate programs specializing in

international health: Johns Hopkins University, Emory University, and Tulane University. Her application was particularly strong due to her summer and J-term internships in Ghana, where she assisted in clinical and field research on malaria.

**Scott Loring Sanders, M.F.A. in creative writing '05**, won an honorable mention award in *The Atlantic Monthly's* 2004 Student Writer's Competition. His story, "Jim Limey's Confession," is also under consideration for publication by the magazine. The award will be noted in *The Atlantic Monthly's* May 2005 issue.

Assistant professor of film [Jake Mahaffy's](#) short film, *Motion Studies #3: Gravity*, was selected to screen in the international short film competition at the 2005 Sundance Film Festival. It was one of 82 short films selected from over 3,887 international entries. *Gravity* was shot on a Saturday afternoon on the Hollins campus and features graduate student Greg Rogers. It was made with the help of Pinckney Benedict, professor of English.

Assistant professor of [psychology](#) **Lora Jacobi** co-authored two research projects with seniors Gunter Davis and Megan Humphreys: "Emotional Reactivity and the Emphasis on Thinness in Parents, Peers, and Society" (Jacobi and Davis) and "Stereotypes of Eating Disorders and the Influence of Parents, Peers, and Society" (Jacobi and Humphreys). The two projects have been accepted for presentation at the 2005 annual convention of the American Psychological Association (APA), which will be held in August in Washington, D.C.

**Nancy Peterson**, director of [riding](#), was chosen as the 2004 Horseperson of the Year by the Virginia Horse Shows Association. She was also awarded the Susan Hagan Award, which is given to individuals based on their integrity and sportsmanship.

The Hollins [equestrian team](#) has set an Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) record by becoming the high point team for the IHSA Zone IV, Region 2, for the eighth consecutive year. The team claimed the record with their win at the IHSA show February 20th, besting teams from Washington & Lee and Lynchburg College. Hollins will host the Zone IV Horse Show on April 8; from this competition, the top two schools will go on to the National IHSA Horse Show May 4 - 8. Congratulations to Jennifer Champagne '06, who earned the High Point Rider award for Zone IV, Region 2. She will compete at the National Horse Show with other high point riders for the National High Point Championship, an honor equivalent to the Heisman Trophy in college football. She is the seventh Hollins rider to accomplish this feat.

**Joseph Ametepe**, assistant professor of [physics](#), received a \$30,000 research grant from the Thomas F. Jeffress and Kate Miller Jeffress Memorial Trust. The grant will aid a collaborative project in which the Hollins physics and biology departments will establish an ultraviolet (UV) light processing laboratory, providing valuable research on the use of UV light to produce safe drinking water and enhancing the quality of undergraduate science education.

Professor of [German](#) and [film](#) **Klaus Phillips'** book, *Straight Through the Heart: Doris Doerrie, German Filmmaker and Author*, has just been published by Scarecrow Press. The book was co-edited with Franz A. Birgel of Muhlenberg College. According to the publisher, the "collection of articles is the first comprehensive introduction to the work of the multi-talented Doris Doerrie, Germany's most successful female filmmaker and bestselling author." Plans for the book took shape during a Hollins Colloquium devoted to Doerrie's work. An appendix features the filmmaker's own English translation of her original script for her favorite film, *Nobody Loves Me*, a script she completed at Hollins during the spring of 1992, when she was a Fulbright Visiting Filmmaker.

At this year's Founder's Day convocation on February 24, the first John P. Wheeler Professorship was awarded, to **Professor of Political Science Jong Ra**. Jake Wheeler, professor emeritus of [political science](#), was unfortunately unable to attend this year's convocation after having suffered a stroke. His family recently reported that he is recovering nicely.

### **Retiring Professors**

Associate Professor of [Communication Studies](#) Jane Tumas-Serna will retire at the close of this academic year after being at Hollins for 17 years. Tumas-Serna founded the communications department at Hollins in 1988. Professor of Physical Education Lanetta Ware retires this year after 43 years at Hollins. Coach Ware led the Hollins lacrosse team to second place in the national championships in the 1970s and coached amateur golfing champion Carol Semple Thompson '70 (see more on Carol below). Under Ware's guidance the fencing team became state champions in 1997. She is an authority on [fencing](#), [golf](#), [tennis](#), [lacrosse](#) and [field hockey](#), a member of the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame, and former president of the International Federation of Women's Lacrosse Associations.

### **Alumnae/i**

#### **Hollins Abroad-Paris 50th Reunion: September 24-29**

Celebrate the pioneering [abroad program](#) begun in 1955 with a return to the "city of lights." Some highlights of the grand fete include: receptions hosted by Wendy Woods Cormier '88, Abby L'Hommedieu Dunham '62, Nancy Merritt Asthalter '64, Leslie Lykes de Galbert '72, and Ann Ismay Vallery-Radot '57 at their homes; private tours of the Picasso Museum, Reid Hall, backstage at La Comedie Francaise, and Victor Hugo's Paris; afternoon tea at the residence of the U.S. Ambassador; trips to Monet's gardens at Giverny, Fontainebleu, the Louvre, and Chartres. Realizing that not everyone will be able to take part in the week-long reunion, Hollins is offering a smaller package, which includes the Opening Reception on Saturday, September 24, at Cormier's home and the Sunday, September 25, reception at Reid Hall for \$150. This package does not include lodging or airfare, but does include transportation to both receptions from the host hotel. More information will be coming soon to the [alumnae Web site](#), or contact Alumnae Relations with questions or to reserve your place (800-846-5371 or [alumnae@hollins.edu](mailto:alumnae@hollins.edu)).

#### **Alumnae Reunion 2005: June 3-5**

Classes celebrating reunion this year are those ending in 0 and 5 and the class of 2003. We will also have special events at reunion this year in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Hollins Abroad-Paris program. Schedule and pricing are being developed. More information will be coming soon to the [reunion Web site](#).

#### **[Colonial Williamsburg](#): An Exclusive Hollins Tour**

##### **April 29-May 1**

Join us as Hollins partners with Colonial Williamsburg staff - many of them Hollins alumnae - for behind-the-scenes tours, private dinners, and a special reception all just for Hollins travelers. Learn more [here](#).

### **Congratulations to...**

**Mildred Emory Persinger, class of 1939**, was the recipient of the Hollins Medal at the 2005 Founder's Day convocation at Hollins on February 24. Persinger has brought distinction to Hollins through her dedication to women's rights and her long association with the National Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) and the United Nations. As a member of the National Board of the YWCA, she worked with the National Council of Negro Women on racial justice issues, including passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voter Registration Act of 1965.

**Carol Semple Thompson, class of 1970**, who has been one of the country's premier amateur golfers for

more than three decades, has been named the 2005 PGA First Lady of Golf. Thompson will be honored May 25, during the 66th Senior PGA Championship in Latrobe, PA. She is a veteran of 99 USGA championships, and owns seven national titles that include the 1973 U.S. Women's Amateur Championship, four U.S. Senior Women's Championships and two U.S. Mid-Amateur Championships. Only legendary Bob Jones (nine), JoAnne Gunderson Carner, Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods (eight) have won more. Thompson will return to Hollins on May 22 as the speaker for our [163rd commencement ceremony](#).

**Donna Lynn Burns, class of 1982**, was recently selected as a 2004 YWCA Salute to Women Achievers in Industry honoree. A vice president with JPMorgan Chase, Donna was honored at an awards luncheon on November 9, 2004, in New York. The YWCA award is the latest in a series of awards Donna has earned, including the JPMorgan Chase Profiles in Diversity Diamond Award and the JPMorgan Chase Outstanding Volunteer Award.

**Bonnie Roop Bowles '02, M.A. '03** won the 2005 John Steinbeck Award for the Short Story for her work, "Easter Turkey." The award is sponsored by Reed Magazine, the Center for Steinbeck Studies, San Jose State College, and the National Steinbeck Center.

**Karen Sands-O'Connor, '95** graduate and current faculty member of the [master's in children's literature program](#) at Hollins, has had her book *Soon Come Home to This Island: West Indians in British Children's Literature from Colonization to Windrush and Beyond* accepted for publication in Routledge's series "Children's Literature and Culture."

Children's author **Alexandria LaFaye**, who earned her master's degree in children's literature in 1998 from Hollins, has won the 2005 Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction. LaFaye writes under the name "A. LaFaye" and now teaches in the Hollins program. She was honored for her latest novel, *Worth*, published by Simon & Schuster.

**Upcoming Events**  
[Campus Events Calendar](#)

[Music Events](#)

[Art Exhibitions in the Eleanor D. Wilson Museum](#)

[Alumnae Events](#)

### **Distinguished Speakers Series**

Dr. Vandana Shiva will speak on "The Future of Food" on Saturday, April 23 at 7:30 p.m. in Babcock Auditorium. A physicist, ecologist, and activist, she has established Navdanya, a movement for biodiversity conservation and farmers' rights in India. She directs the Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Natural Resource Policy. She is author of *Biopiracy: The Plunder of Nature and Knowledge* and *Stolen Harvest: The Hijacking of the Global Food Supply*. In her talk at Hollins, Dr. Shiva will discuss agricultural diversity and why preservation of it is vital.

### **[Hollins Alumnae Travel](#)**

**Colonial Williamsburg:** April 29-May 1

**Queen Mary 2:** A Transatlantic Voyage. June 9-18

**Hollins Abroad-Paris 50th Reunion,** September 24-29

**Germany's Legendary Holiday Markets:** November 29-December 7

For more information on these learning vacations, contact Dotty Weaver at (540) 362-6393 or [travel@hollins.edu](mailto:travel@hollins.edu).

### **New Tinker Mountain Writer's Workshop**

June 12 to 18, Hollins will offer the first [Tinker Mountain Writer's Workshop](#). With ten one-week courses in poetry, fiction, and non-fiction from which to choose, aspiring writers will love the small classes, discussions, and a hike up Tinker Mountain.

### **English Department Readings**

All events listed below are free and open to the public. For more information, contact [creative.writing@hollins.edu](mailto:creative.writing@hollins.edu) or (540) 362-6317.

Thursday, April 21, 8:15pm - Peter and Nicole Cooley  
Green Drawing Room, Main Building.

Friday, April 22 - John Hollander  
Hollins Room, Wyndham Robertson Library.  
3:00 p.m. A discussion about the nature of poetry.  
8:00 p.m. A reading with reception to follow.

Thursday, April 28, 8:15pm - Karen McElmurray  
Green Drawing Room, Main Building.

Thursday, May 5, 8:15pm - Farewell reading by graduating seniors and M.F.A. students  
Green Drawing Room, Main Building.

### **Quad Quote**

"When I sit and talk to Hollins women, I am so impressed by the individual differences among them. There is the commitment and passion each woman has to whatever her interests are; that kind of clarity about what your interests are, that kind of passion and willingness to step outside of your comfort zone and take risks is developed more so in an all-women's college setting."

- President Nancy Oliver Gray in a recent issue of the Hollins Columns

### **Links**

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