

Hollins News Flash for March 2007

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ALUMNAE/I

New Alumnae Relations Director Ann Cassell

Ann Cassell, who has completed course work on her M.A.L.S. at Hollins, has been named acting director of alumnae relations. Ann replaces Judy Bates '98, who has taken a position as the director of events for the Art Museum of Western Virginia in Roanoke.

Ann is experienced in alumnae relations work, having held staff positions at Hollins and the University of Virginia. She received her B.A. with distinction in political and social thought from UVA in 1997. She served Hollins as assistant director of alumnae relations for a year under Director Betsy Grubbs '72. Ann has also worked in development at Virginia Tech and Hollins. She has held a part-time research position with the Hollins development office while pursuing her graduate degree. Ann is delighted to re-join the alumnae relations team and looks forward to getting to know Hollins alumnae at events across the country.



Lisa Valk Long '72 Receives the Hollins Medal

Chair of the Hollins Trustees Lisa Valk Long '72 was honored with the Hollins Medal at Founder's Day this past February 22. Hollins Medals are awarded "for distinction, service to Hollins University and to woman's life and education in general." The medal is a personal manifestation of mutual affection to those who have shown a demonstrated commitment to Hollins. Lisa has brought distinction to Hollins as a longtime member of the board of trustees, co-chair of the Campaign for Hollins in the 1990s, and as an outspoken advocate, cheerleader, and generous volunteer. Lisa was the first female publisher of any Time, Inc. magazine and rose to the position of executive vice president before retiring in 2001.



Betsy Moore Johnston '62 and Bill Johnston inducted into Levavi Oculos
Named after the Hollins motto, *Levavi Oculos* is our pinnacle giving society, honoring those whose cumulative giving to Hollins exceeds \$1 million. For their dedicated service and generosity to Hollins, Bill and Betsy Moore Johnston '62 were inducted into *Levavi Oculos* at the 1842 Society weekend held in New York this past December.

Bill and Betsy have made leadership gifts to many projects at Hollins and are outspoken advocates of parity in giving in their household. Bill, who retired in 2001 as President and Chief Operating Officer of the New York Stock Exchange, has served two terms on the Hollins Board of Trustees and serves as co-chair of the Committee on Development. He has shared his time for admissions, been a speaker for classes, and hosted numerous Hollins interns at the New York Stock Exchange. Betsy studied music at Hollins, has volunteered for her local alumnae chapter and her class, and supports the arts and music at Hollins.



Reunion 2007 features ADA 100th Anniversary Celebration

If you are an ADA alumna of any class year, mark your calendar to attend a special celebration of the group's 100th year at Reunion 2007. ADA will have a reception on **Saturday, June 2, at 5:30pm** in the Green Drawing Room.

Since 1907, ADA has promoted school spirit on the Hollins campus through skits, songs, announcements in the dining room, cheers at athletic events, and yearly sponsorship of the Red Cross Bloodmobile. All ADA alumnae, regardless of class year, are invited to celebrate 100 years of Hollins spirit at Reunion '07. ADA will have a hospitality room available throughout the weekend. Don't forget to wear purple!



Hollins Grad Adds National Book Critics Circle Award to Accolades

Last October, **Kiran Desai**, a 1994 graduate of the [master's program in creative writing](#), became the youngest woman ever to win the Man Booker Prize, second only to the Nobel Prize as the world's most esteemed and influential award in literature.

Now, Desai has received another prestigious literary honor: the National Book Critics Circle fiction award. The Indian-born Desai was recognized for her second novel, *The Inheritance of Loss*. She joins such distinguished past winners of the fiction prize as E.L. Doctorow, Cormac McCarthy, John Updike, and Philip Roth. Other nominees this year were McCarthy, Richard Ford, Dave Eggers, and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie.

► Read [Alumnae Accomplishments here](#).

CAMPUS



Founder's Day and Presser Hall Rededication

- ▶ View [slideshow of photos](#) from Founder's Day
- ▶ View [photos of Presser Hall](#)
- ▶ Read Professor of Music Judith Cline's [Founder's Day Address](#) (PDF)

Hollins officially rededicated historic Presser Hall, the home of the school's music program for the past 80 years, at a ceremony on February 22. Soprano Florence Fowler Peacock '59 (in photo at left, with President Gray) performed with the Hollins Concert Choir during the Founder's Day Convocation that day. The convocation address was given by Professor of Music Judith Cline on "Theodore Presser's Lasting Legacy."



The event marked the completion of extensive renovations to the building, which included new paint and lighting to enhance the aesthetic beauty and usefulness of the facility; new ceilings and carpeting to improve sound management while preserving the building's acoustic integrity; reconfigured and expanded practice rooms, allowing more space to teach and learn; and major upgrades such as the addition of modern climate control, an elevator, and other accessibility improvements. The rededication included student performances of piano, violin, and voice, and PowerPoint presentations on the history of music at Hollins.



J-Term Classes and Trips

The January Short Term took Hollins students across the globe and into the sky, the woods, and streams. A flight navigation class planned an actual airplane flight between two airports; a fly fishing class studied stream ecology with hands-on tying and casting of flies; "Story Maps: the Roanoke Project" created an online literary site, <http://www.hollins.mapsites.net/>, of student-written essays corresponding with geographic locations in the Roanoke area; and professors took students to Greece (<http://grecetrip.wordpress.com/>), Germany, Peru, and Mexico. Also, many students enjoyed internships during J-Term, including with Sotheby's and the Tyra Banks Show.



Student in Greece

- ▶ Read a [Roanoke Times article](#) about the fly fishing class

Personalize Hollins apparel with the [Bookshop Web site](#)

Hollins has a new partnership with MyGarb.com. Just click on the picture on the Bookshop's homepage (<http://hollinsbookshop.com/>) and get ready to design personalized Hollins apparel. You can add your class year, academic area, sport, or extracurricular activity. Select your item style, color, size (up to 6x), and logo design for a truly unique piece of clothing. T-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, pants, shorts, boxers, youth and infant clothing – the choices are endless!



FUNDING



\$5 Million Challenge Gift

Hollins received an extraordinary gift this past November, in the form of a \$5 million challenge gift from an anonymous donor. The university must match the gift dollar-for-dollar with funds or pledges for the endowment or for campus maintenance by June 30, 2007. Calling the gift “transformative” for the university, President Nancy Gray said, “We are extremely grateful to this generous donor, and the resulting \$10 million will propel Hollins to even greater levels of success.” The funds will add to Hollins’ strong foundation and will help preserve the historic campus’ architectural treasures.



One time giving opportunity

The [IRA Charitable Rollover Provision](#) of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 enables donors age 70 ½ or older to exclude up to \$100,000 from their gross income for a taxable year for cash gifts directly to a qualified charity from their Individual Retirement accounts – including Hollins. This change is effective only until December 31, 2007.

The [IRA Charitable Rollover Provision](#) applies only to traditional and Roth IRAs – not other retirement plans, such as 401(K), 403(b) and annuities. The provision also excludes contributions to donor advised funds and supporting organizations. Please see your financial advisor for further details or contact Jayne Shaw, executive director of development, at jshaw@hollins.edu or (540) 362-6480.



The newly renovated [Swannanoa Hall](#) (formerly Starkie House / West Annex) was featured in a sampling of new campus architecture from across the country published by *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

STUDENTS/FACULTY



Dillard

Professor of English R.H.W. Dillard has been named the 2007 winner of the Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP)/George Garrett Award for Outstanding Community Service in Literature. The award is given annually to a living individual who has demonstrated exceptional generosity to writers. The AWP presented the award to Dillard at their annual conference on March 1 in Atlanta. The *New York Times Book Review* has called him “one of the most remarkable teachers in America” and he was named Virginia Professor of the Year in 1987. He has taught creative writing, literature, and film studies at Hollins since 1964.



Zulia

A performance symposium, held February 15-17, honoring the life and work of Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Wendy Wasserstein was the subject of two feature articles in *The Roanoke Times*. The symposium, organized by **associate professor and chair of the theatre department Ernie Zulia**, was a smash hit with the campus and Roanoke communities. The celebration included a talk by four-time Oscar nominee and former chair of the National Endowment for the Arts Jane Alexander on “Women in Leadership and the Arts in the Twenty-first Century.” Alexander also performed in a dramatic reading of Wasserstein’s last play, *Third*. William Ivey Long, a Tony award-winning costume designer, shared his insights into Wasserstein’s career and hosted “Seven Delightful One-Act Plays by Wendy Wasserstein,” a collaborative effort by theatre students from Hollins, Radford University, Roanoke College, the University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, and Washington and Lee University.

▶ Read a [Roanoke Times article](#) on the Wasserstein symposium



Mallory Haar '07 will present her paper, “Desire, Danger and Disembodiment: Girls’ Sexual Bodies and Young Adult Literature,” at the National Women’s Studies Association Meeting in June 2007. Her paper is part of a panel entitled “Girl Power or ‘Wild Things?’: Reading Girls’ Fiction from Elsie Dinsmore to Gossip Girl.”



Cortney Phillips '09 is a member of the Hollins swim team. She competes in the 500 freestyle (personal best 5:40:36) and 1,000 freestyle (11:19:67), as well as the 100 backstroke (1:09:01) and 200 backstroke (2:36:48). Academically, Cortney has decided to major in English, with a creative writing emphasis. She is involved in student government and the Batten Leadership Institute.

▶ Read [more about Cortney](#) and her life as a student-athlete at Hollins.



photo by Skip Higgins

Lisa O’Quinn '07 has been accepted into the Master of Fine Arts program in photography at the Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Georgia. She also received a \$3,000 fellowship from the institution. Lisa is studying art and photography at Hollins. Last summer, she worked as an intern with *Marie Claire* magazine in New York, and has also interned with *The Roanoker* magazine.

▶ Read [Student Accomplishments](#) and [Faculty Highlights](#).

▶ View [Student Artwork](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Campus Events Calendar](#)

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

▶ [Music Events](#)

[Upcoming Alumnae Events](#)

Austin, TX Alumnae Chapter Kick-off Party: March 24, 2007

Charlottesville, VA Alumnae Luncheon: April 19, 2007

Richmond, VA Cocktail Party: April 19, 2007

New England Cocktail Party (in Boston): April 26, 2007

▶ [Photos from alumnae events](#)

Reunion 2007 will be held **June 1-3, 2007**, for classes ending in 2 and 7 and the class of 2005.

Hollinsummer: July 8-20, 2007

Two weeks of fun and learning on one of Virginia's most beautiful college campuses. Open to girls who are currently in 9th, 10th, or 11th grade. Contact the admissions office to enroll your daughter, niece, or babysitter:

huadm@hollins.edu or (800) 456-9595.

Leadership Camp for Girls: July 23-27, 2007

A day camp for 7th and 8th grade girls to develop leadership skills, confidence, and broaden their horizons. Contact the admissions office to enroll your daughter, niece, or babysitter: huadm@hollins.edu or (800) 456-9595.

LINKS

▶ [Alumnae Web site](#)

▶ [Update your information](#)

▶ [Log in to Connect@Hollins](#)

▶ [Send your class news](#)

▶ [Give a gift online](#)

▶ [Send a Hollins E-Card](#)

QUAD QUOTE

“When I sing, I have an image of the music being like a Fourth-of-July firework. I launch it from the stage, there is an arc of energy, and over the heads of the audience all the little glittery pieces cascade down and get processed through the experiential and emotional filters of the listeners. I can manage the launch and the quality of the firework; I have no control of the fallout. You can never really know the outcome, the lasting legacy.” – Professor of Music Judith Cline in her Founder's Day address, “Theodore Presser's Lasting Legacy.”

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