

AlmaMatters

THE CLASS OF 1999 NEWSLETTER



Above (from left to right): Nick Rehberg (not an alum), Nana Ashong, Landis Fryer, Ken Graham, David Altman, Rex Morey and Andrea Arata '98 at Kyle Roderick's wedding.

Left: Kyle Roderick and his wife, Monica, on their wedding day.

CLASS NEWS— **Kyle Roderick** married Monica Galie (Saint Joseph University 2005) in Mt. Laurel, NJ, on September 19, 2009. Kyle writes to say that the wedding was one of the best nights of his life, and this his wife, Monica, did a perfect job planning all the small details that made for such a memorable evening. A number of Dartmouth alumni were in attendance, including **Rex Morey**, Andrea Arata '98, **David Altman**, **Nana Ashong**, and **Ken Graham**. **Case Dorkey** and **Landis Fryer** were in the groomsman party. Kyle and Monica had a whirlwind honeymoon tour in Tahiti, Bora Bora and Cabo San Lucas for two weeks. Now they are back from their adventures, and they are living in Boston, where Kyle just recently took a job with Amgen Biotechnology in their sales department. Kyle was also recently honored to accept a position on the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of New England's Board of Trustees. He is always looking for help or fund raising ideas if anyone is interested. Rex Morey traveled to Kyle's wedding from his new home in Durham, NC, where he started business school at Duke this fall.

Anthony Accurso married Jennifer Mulhern (Haverford '97) in Garrison, NY on August 15th. In attendance were Pat Deleon, **Sally (Dickerson) Deleon**, **Laura Poplowski-Ma**, Ryan Ma, **Jessica (Jacob) Flick**, Greg Flick, **Carrie Kaplan**, **Jason Whaley** and Jason's wife, Meredith Quinn. Anthony is finishing his 4th year of medical school after a mid-career switch from teaching. He and Jennifer are currently living in Brooklyn.

Raadha Brayce Jacobstein and Adam Jacobstein are happy to announce the birth of their second son, Jonah Kalikolehua Brayce Jacobstein on November 1, 2008. His older brother Eli is busy toughening him up. The growing family lives in Volcano, Hawaii.

Andra Winokur Newman and Elliot Newman are proud to announce the arrival of Anna Wynne Newman ("Winnie"). Big brother Will is proud and the whole family is doing well in Greenwich, Connecticut.

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DECEMBER 2009

NOTES FROM THE CLASS OF 1999 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Greetings fellow '99s!

As this issue of Alma Matters reaches your mailbox, the holiday season should be in full swing. We hope you are enjoying your holiday celebrations and get-togethers with friends and family!

It was an exciting Fall at Dartmouth, highlighted by the inauguration of Dartmouth's new President, Jim Kim. Class Vice President Catherine Pieroni and Class Treasurer Michelle Sweetser visited Dartmouth for Class Officers Weekend in late September, and both were impressed by President Kim's address to alumni during the weekend. According to Catherine, listening to him speak about Dartmouth was like seeing the College with fresh eyes. President Kim spoke with reverence about numerous Dartmouth traditions, including the Freshman Trips program, the Greek System and Dartmouth's general sense of community. Catherine was also struck by how young, energetic and just plain brilliant President Kim seemed. The picture below taken during the Homecoming football game shows what kind of spirit our new president is bringing to the job. President Kim will likely be travelling around the country, and we recommend you attend any events held in your area where he is speaking!

The Executive Committee is searching for a Webmaster to keep up our web page and also our Class of 1999 Facebook page. Currently our web site is under construction (though you can still pay your dues on-line!) and we would like to get it up and running as soon as possible. Alumni Relations has developed a new tool for Class Webmasters that serves as a web page template so the Webmaster doesn't need to know HTML or have any extensive computer skills. If you are interested or have any questions please e-mail Catherine Pieroni at catmax@alum.dartmouth.org. We really need your help!

We hope you have been enjoying our monthly e-Newsletters! We are planning to switch broadcast e-mail systems in the near future, so to ensure you keep receiving the e-Newsletter, and other news and information from our class, please make sure your e-mail address is up to date. You can do this on-line by connecting to the Dartmouth Alumni Directory at <http://alumni.dartmouth.edu/>. If the College does not currently have your e-mail address, note there are many opt-out options presented (*e.g.*, you can choose to receive only information from the Class of 1999 but not the College), so giving your e-mail address does not mean you will be inundated with e-mails from Dartmouth.

Please send your news and questions to our class account: class.of.1999@alum.dartmouth.org.

Happy Holidays!

The Class of 1999 Executive Committee

President Kim at the Homecoming football game vs. Columbia posing with the Dartmouth cheerleaders. Dartmouth won the game 28-6 and broke a 17 game losing streak in the process.





Interview with Kirsten Earl, Class of 1999 Emmy Winner

The following interview is with Kirsten Earl, '99. She is married to Dan Powell, '00 and works for The Martha Stewart Show as a Crafter (her official job title!), designing the crafts that Martha demonstrates and breaking them down into easy-to-follow steps and directions for the home viewer. She also makes props for the set and generally makes the set a place that viewers want to live in! Most recently, Kirsten won an Emmy for her work on the show!

Alma Matters (AM): What was your major at Dartmouth?

Kirsten Earl: I was a Physics major. I actually stayed at Dartmouth for an extra year for some graduate studies in Physics and Astronomy, but decided it wasn't the direction I wanted to go.

Above: Kirsten on the set of The Martha Stewart Show with her Emmy.

AM: Did your major or any extracurricular activities at Dartmouth prepare you for your current job?

Kirsten: I definitely feel like I use my science-y background when I'm at work. At first glance most people would think my major would have NOTHING to do with what I'm doing now, but I can say that having an analytical mind and having experience in a lab really helps when I'm laying out a craft process for Martha to do on television. I have to take a final product and work backwards, splitting it into steps that will make the most sense for Martha and for the viewer. I also write the step-by-step directions for each craft for publishing on our web site. Crafts also use a lot of math - maybe not the advanced specialized calculus I used in physics, but lots of dimensions and percentages and things. And I'm the tech expert for the whole Art Department - anything that needs to be designed on a computer is handed off to me.

AM: What do you do on the Martha Stewart show? What is a typical day like for you?

Kirsten: I work on the craft segments for the show - along with two other "crafters," as they call us, I develop crafts, make the final products, and set up the steps for Martha to show to our viewers. I also make anything that needs to be handmade for the set. There is absolutely no typical day, since every week is a different craft and each one has to be new and inventive. But generally, I spend some time researching and developing crafts with my fellow crafters, some time on making things pretty on set and preparing the segments, and then of course shooting the show, and then some time preparing templates and instructions for all our crafts for the web site.

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Thanks to the following classmates who have paid their 2009-2010 dues:

Sara S. Alexander	Antony G. Hudek	Dhruv A. Prasad
Eric J. Anderson	Danny Indelicato	Karen Raghavan
Jennifer R. Anderson	C. Healy Jones	Damali Rhett
Lauren M. Baptist	Caroline R. Kaufmann	Julie T. Rhodes
Todd M. Becker	Brett L. Kiefer	Benjamin R. Riefe
Lucas M. Bianchi	John R. Kline	Kristin Lucas Robillard
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Dave K. Dookeeram	David M. Maher	Christopher M. Showalter
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Eugene Gorbach	Lillie Ng	David Wagner
Stacey M. Green	Michael J. O'Donnell	Geoffrey A. Walford
Adam C. Groff	Josh Oberman	Ara D. Walline
Graham R. Gunst	Jennifer L. Parkinson	Evan J. Walsh
Jennifer Coup Gunst	Priscilla E. Parsons	Alik S. Widge
Zachary R. Hafer	Meri Triades Pasztor	Pamela S. Wildeman
Taylor Hamra	Scott M. Peach	Roy C. Wildeman, Jr.
Bunker L. Highmark	M. Catherine Pieroni	George S. Wisecarver
Karen Ho	Jose A. Pluto	Cate Mowell Wright
Nathaniel R. Huckel-Bauer	Rebecca J. Powell	Erica J. Wygonik

List current as of 10/18/2009.



Evie Wright eating her first meal!

Cate Mowell Wright and Erik Anderson Wright welcomed their daughter Evelyn Vail Wright (Evie) on January 15, 2009. Evie likes to see Meredith Kisker (daughter of **Sean Kisker** and **Carrie (Bourden) Kisker**) and Vivienn, Hayden and Addison Pettit (daughters of **Jennifer Keller Pettit** and Creed Pettit). Cate, Erik and Evie live in Venice, California.

Mark Sikkes is still living in London, England, where he has been for the past six years. He is working as a lawyer at the British Ministry of Justice. He advises primarily on human rights law, and in particular deals with investigations into deaths in custody, and on managing the risks posed by violent and sexual offenders when they are released from prison. Mark writes that it is very interesting work and he really enjoys it. He doesn't make it back to the US very often but tries to catch up with his old Dartmouth friends when he can.

Jeremy McCormick recently moved to St. Louis with his wife, Maggie, and daughter, Gabrielle, to join the faculty in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Washington University as an Assistant Professor. Jeremy became a hero of sorts to the Dartmouth Baseball team last spring when the team was playing in the NCAA Championships at UNC. When a Dartmouth player became injured, Jeremy made a call to the doctors on his behalf to make sure he was getting the best medical care. Coach Whalen really appreciated Jeremy's help!

Amanda Norquest married Phanny Chan (University of Colorado '99) on October 24, 2009, in Edinburg, Texas.

Steven Lehotsky is serving as a law clerk for 2009-2010 in the chambers of the Honorary Antonin Scalia, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. Steven graduated from Harvard Law School in 2002, and was formerly a law clerk to the Honorary Douglas H. Ginsburg, Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. He also practiced law at Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP in Boston and D.C., and from 2006-2009 was an attorney adviser at the Office of Legal Counsel of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Please send news updates using the enclosed green card or e-mail class.of.1999@alum.dartmouth.org.

PAY YOUR CLASS DUES!

The Class of 1999 Executive Committee needs your support! Please pay your dues on-line today at: <http://www.dartmouth.org/classes/99>.

AM: How did you get your job?

Kirsten: I had a sort of meandering path to this career - my major, as I said earlier, was not directly in line with this profession. I chose to leave grad school in the spring of 2000, and took a job at a theater in NH where I was the Prop Master for their entire summer stock season. I had a really small budget there, so most of our props had to be handmade, and I picked up a lot of skills in my time there. I knew that from there, I wanted to move to New York City to do something in theater or entertainment, but when I got here, I kind of freaked out and desperately took the first job I could find that was more in line with my degree - I became a software developer for this terrible, boring, business-software company. After a few years there, I met my now-husband, and he was very supportive of me finding a job that wouldn't make me miserable. Crafting was something I did with ALL my spare time - my mom taught me to sew at a very young age, and I had been making things with her and on my own my whole life. My now-husband got me in touch with a friend who was a professional crafter/writer who happened to be starting work on a short-lived TV show called Craft Corner Deathmatch for the Style network. She hired me as a crafter for that, and I quit my software job. At CCDM, I was to be lucky enough to work with some people from Martha TV who were filling the time while Martha was um, otherwise occupied (in jail). When Martha was released and started the new "The Martha Stewart Show," my friends from Craft Corner recommended me for the staff, and here I am. A little luck and a lot of really great, supportive people got me my dream job.

AM: Do you have any advice for people who might want to break into the entertainment industry?

Kirsten: I would say that any experience you can get on a TV show or movie will be good experience -- it will help you figure out what part of the industry you like the best, since all the teams on these productions work so closely together, and help you meet a lot of people, which is crucial. A good way to start is to PA (production-assist) - it is a thankless job, but you get your foot in the door and you're exposed to it all. And smart, motivated, dedicated people move up very quickly in this industry, so a Dartmouth grad will never PA for long. I'm also a big advocate for doing what you love - not what you think you are trained for or what you think will make you the most money. What you love will ALWAYS be what makes you the most successful - I've seen examples of it with my friends and acquaintances so many times since graduation. So even if it seems silly (like, hello, crafting!), go for it, and do it sooner rather than later.

AM: Do you have much interaction with Martha Stewart herself? Is she much different than her TV persona or the media portrayal of her?

Kirsten: I have a lot of interaction with her because I'm frequently one of the people prepping her for a show, running her through the craft segment that day. I also attend meetings with her and have even been invited to her home a few times. She's tough, as you probably imagine! And she keeps us all on our toes. But it's a challenge I love - and I am so honored to work with the person who made home keeping and entertaining a skill that women - and frankly anyone - can hone without feeling that it's frivolous or shameful. My mom raised me as a fierce feminist, but one who knows I can be a powerful woman and still make a fabulous pie or a kick-ass quilt, and Martha embodies that.

AM: Do you have any funny anecdotes from your time on the set?

Kirsten: There was one time I was on set preparing for a live show, and there was all this loud music being played to pump up the audience. If you've ever been in the audience of a TV show, you know it's very electric and hectic and exciting. On this particular day, Kermit the Frog was standing at the table next to me getting ready to do some gardening. Richard Simmons was another guest that day and he was running around like a lunatic in front of the audience, and he ran up to me and kissed me. Martha Stewart was a few feet away waiting to walk on, and I had this moment like, how the hell did I get here? It was so surreal and bizarre.

AM: If you could work on the set of any TV show, which would it be and why?

Kirsten: I'm quite happy to be working where I work because I really love the brand and the aesthetic that we promote - it's very much in line with my taste. But given my love of comedy and being challenged with creating bizarre and specialty props, it is another one of my dreams to build props for Saturday Night Live. I have watched some sketches where I have been so jealous of some of the stuff they got to create (Jon Hamm's John Ham, for instance).

AM: Congratulations on your Emmy! Did you get to attend the awards ceremony? Where did you put your Emmy?

Kirsten: Thank you so much! I actually chose not to attend the ceremony because it was in LA and I couldn't make it work with my schedule that particular weekend. Our department had one representative who went and accepted the award for us. My husband and I were out to dinner with another couple the night of the ceremony. They both left the table at one point, so I snuck a look at my iPhone to see if there was any news - and I had about 100 text messages congratulating me. I ran outside and screamed in the street. The waiter thought I ran outside to be sick, so we had to explain to him that no, it was actually a good kind of running-out-the-door, and then he brought our table some complimentary champagne to celebrate. I will always remember that night and I think it actually turned out to be more fun than sitting through a ceremony!

I haven't received my Emmy yet because I had to fill out a form that said how I wanted my name to appear in the engraving, etc., and I'm still waiting for it to be shipped. My husband and I joke that we're going to put it in the bathroom to keep us humble (like he heard Tom Hanks did with his Oscars), but it may just end up on our mantle. My family is scattered throughout New Jersey, so I have promised them I will do a Turnpike victory lap so they can all touch it and get pictures with it.

AM: Do you keep in touch with your Dartmouth friends?

Kirsten: I do - my husband is Dan Powell '00, so I definitely keep in touch with him. Our wedding, a little over 2 years ago, was on the BEMA, and was so packed with Dartmouth people that it was much like a reunion. My wedding party had heavy Dartmouth representation - Janice Ryan '00 was my maid of honor, and Jim McNicholas '01, Jim Noonan '01, and Marc Bruni '99 were my bridesmen. I'd definitely say that Dartmouth, has, by far, been the source of most of my lifelong friends, and I am so grateful for that.

AM: If you could go back and relive one Dartmouth moment, what would it be?

Kirsten: Oh ... so many moments hold special places in my heart, and while I suppose it's not a "moment," I'd have to say I'd give anything to go back and do Sophomore Summer again. How fun was that - am I right??

AM: Thank you so much for taking the time to speak with us. Congratulations again on the Emmy and we look forward to seeing more of your work!

Kirsten: Thanks so much - this is such an honor!

DID YOU KNOW...

that blitzmail may be replaced at Dartmouth with another e-mail client?

A task force formed to investigate possibly replacing blitzmail recommended to the Council on Computing last spring that Google's Gmail replace Blitzmail as the College's e-mail client. The Council on Computing was hoping to have a pilot version of the new program implemented this Fall term. However, President Kim's administration informed the task force and the Council on Computing in July, that despite the recommendation, now was not the right time to begin the integration of any new e-mail system. Blitzmail lives to see another day, but it is likely those days are numbered.

that Dartmouth plans to break ground on a new Visual Arts Center in Spring of 2010?

The Hanover Planning Board approved the College's proposed design for the Visual Arts Center by a 6-1 vote recently, following previous debate over the building's design and its effect on the downtown area. Before the College can break ground, the Spaulding loading dock must be reconstructed and both Brewster Hall and Clement Hall must be demolished. The building will be home to Dartmouth's Studio Art and Film & Media Studies departments and to the Lowe Auditorium, to be moved to the new building from the Hopkins Center.

that Dartmouth is exploring whether to change Dartmouth's academic calendar so that Fall term ends before Thanksgiving?

If the change were implemented, both Fall and Summer terms would begin earlier, while the dates for Winter and Spring terms would remain unchanged. The changes would affect the schedule for Dartmouth Outing Club First-Year Trips, Orientation and class reunions.

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SEPTEMBER 11TH MEMORIAL DEDICATED



On June 19, 2009, former President James Wright and College Chaplain Richard Crocker spoke at a dedication ceremony for a memorial honoring the 11 members of the Dartmouth community who lost their lives during the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, including our classmate, Juan Cisneros. The memorial, pictured left, is located in the Zahm Courtyard (between the Hopkins Center and the Hanover Inn), among numerous other memorials, mostly to those in the Dartmouth family who died in various wars. Please visit the memorial next time you are in Hanover to pay your respects to Juan and the other 9/11 victims.

[HTTP://WWW.DARTMOUTH.ORG/CLASSES/99](http://www.dartmouth.org/classes/99)