

# Bay Pathway

SPRING/SUMMER 2019



*Celebrating the 2019 Rose Ceremony*

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# Bay Pathway

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latest info on upcoming events!**

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## On the Cover

The Rose Ceremony

The Rose Ceremony is held each year before Commencement. The history of this tradition goes back nearly 20 years when the first graduates from the One Day A Week *Saturday* program were honored with a Ceremony and given a rose as a symbol of their accomplishment. One student, after receiving her rose, took it upon herself to dedicate the rose to the people in her life who helped her fulfill her dream of an education. From that one student's dedication, the tradition was born.

Graduates from the 2019 Rose Ceremony, from center clockwise: Beverleigh Fateev (blue dress), Yecika Irlanda, Nuria Sotiropoulos, Gabrielle Gonzalez, Lisa Bingham-Kellier, Jenifer Ohanesian, Stephanie Teixeira, Roxanne Shelton, and Angelica Cruz.

# Carpe Diem

FROM THE PRESIDENT

For the last 25 years, Noel and I have called Bay Path home. When we moved here in December 1994, we had no idea that this would be the start of an incredible journey that allowed us to be part of the remarkable transformation of this great University. But the time has come to move on to the next chapter in our lives, and in partnership with the Board of Trustees, I have announced my retirement as President, effective June 30, 2020.

From the moment I set foot on campus, I was warmly welcomed by the Board, students, faculty, staff, and our alumni. During my tenure as the fifth president of Bay Path, I was privileged to have met and been encouraged by every generation of Bay Path alumni, from graduates of the co-ed Bay Path Institute—many people do not know that our original charter accepted both men and women as students until 1944 when we became a women's college—to the present-day University. I have not just been a witness to this institution's 122-year history embodied by the stories and accomplishments of our alumni, but I am honored to have made personal connections with so many of you that I will cherish in the days ahead.

I will never forget our Bay Path Institute luncheons, "Evening Under the Stars" events, and being introduced to Irving Bashevkin '43, Connie Breck '41, Robert Sullivan '41, Betty Sweeney '39, Pat

Jacobson '39, Bess Jex '39, and Venessa O'Brien '38, who just celebrated her 100th birthday and is profiled in this issue, and James McGill '35. Receiving their unwavering commitment to Bay Path was a blessing. Their presence is still felt and seen on campus with names on buildings, lounges, and classrooms. Yet, they would be the first to say it was our mission, one that is as relevant today as it was over a century ago, that made all the difference. At Bay Path, they received a quality educational experience that led to productive and satisfying careers and lives. I believe this is the thread that links decades of our alumni, and I am proud to state that we still provide our undergraduates and graduates with the same promise. It has been the foundation of our success as an institution, and the thousands of women and men who received their undergraduate and graduate degrees from Bay Path are the lasting legacy of that promise.



Since 1897, the ultimate DNA of Bay Path has been its entrepreneurial spirit and can-do attitude. One defining moment during my presidency was the establishment of the One Day A Week *Saturday* program for adult women in 1999. This new, accelerated model of learning for working adults eventually became the springboard for The

relevant graduate programs that are in high demand in our region and country.

Finally, I have a profound sense of gratitude to the Board of Trustees, who have challenged, listened, and supported me through all our endeavors. I am also extremely fortunate to work with talented and



**THE QUALITY EDUCATIONAL  
EXPERIENCE RECEIVED AT BAY PATH  
IS THE THREAD THAT LINKS OUR  
ALUMNI AND IS THE FOUNDATION  
OF OUR SUCCESS AS AN INSTITUTION.**

American Women's College. This year, we will be celebrating 20 years of educating adult women at our **One Day to Today** event on October 26, 2019. I hope you will join me at the celebration, so please mark your calendars for the big day.

Immediately following the launch of the One Day program, innovative graduate education became a centerpiece of the institution's vision and is evident today in our over 32 graduate programs from the master's through the doctoral level within our University status that was attained in 2014. I congratulate our creative and dedicated faculty and staff in their determination to develop unique,

committed faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of the University who have worked tirelessly to ensure our mission and vision plans were executed successfully, and who supported our students in so many powerful ways. We have continually raised the bar, not just for a brighter future for Bay Path, but for the thousands of students, who through education, have been given wings to soar.

Carpe Diem!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol A. Leary".

Carol A. Leary

An abstract graphic featuring a stylized DNA double helix. The helix is composed of two intertwined strands, one in a dark red/maroon color and the other in a lighter orange/brown color. The background is white and filled with numerous small, colorful dots in shades of red, orange, yellow, and blue, scattered across the page. The overall design is clean and modern, with a focus on the theme of genetics and healthcare.

# Empowering the Patient

GENETIC COUNSELING HELPS  
PATIENTS CHART A COURSE FOR  
THEIR OWN HEALTHCARE.

The groundbreaking discoveries relating to the double-helix structure of DNA by James Watson, Francis Crick, Maurice Wilkins, and Rosalind Franklin opened the door to a new era of scientific revelations that have impacted fields ranging from agriculture to forensics to medicine. Unlocking the secrets of DNA also provided insight into the origins of humankind. The thread of chromosomes that winds its way within all of us is one that has been passed down from generation to generation, and, in part determines who we are and what makes us different. Genetic testing has increasingly played an important role in diagnosing diseases, and, with it, the evolution of genetic counseling.

## The Evolution of Genetic Counseling

The year was 1971. It was a historic moment—the first class of master’s degree genetic counselors had graduated from Sarah Lawrence College in Bronxville, NY. In the beginning, genetic counselors explained and interpreted tests for prospective parents and newborns for inherited diseases such as Tay-Sachs, sickle cell and cystic fibrosis. In time, cancer, Alzheimer’s disease, heart disease, and others have been added to the list.

Genetic counselors are translators and caregivers. With their understanding of both genomics and psychosocial counseling, they help people maneuver through the emotional rollercoaster of interpreting genetic test results and prenatal screening tools, to plotting a course of action.

“Genetic counselors are uniquely qualified to look at how genetics may play a role in medical conditions, as well as the probability of a patient being predisposed

to other genetic diseases based on a number of factors such as family and health history,” states Professor Janice Berliner, director of the Master of Science in Genetic Counseling program at Bay Path. “While we are most concerned with the patient in front of us,

DEMAND FOR  
GENETIC COUNSELORS  
IS EXPECTED TO GROW  
NEARLY 30 PERCENT  
BETWEEN 2016 AND 2026.

we are also able to provide information on potential risks for other family members, which requires patience and empathy. We are there to empower patients to make the decisions that are right for them.”

As the menu of genetic tests expands, physicians and other practitioners find it challenging to stay abreast. In a recent *Forbes* magazine article, a survey of 488 doctors in New York state shows that only 14% said they felt





"GENETIC COUNSELORS ARE UNIQUELY QUALIFIED TO LOOK AT THE ROLE OF GENETICS IN MEDICAL CONDITIONS AND EMPOWER PATIENTS TO MAKE THE DECISIONS THAT ARE RIGHT FOR THEM."

Professor Janice Berliner, director of the  
Master of Science in Genetic Counseling program

equipped to interpret genetic test results. Although, this is a modest sample, it points out the need for genetic counselors on the healthcare team.

"It is very difficult for medical practitioners to have a deep understanding of every gene that is available for testing and the implications for the patient," adds Berliner. "Genetic counselors are specialists who not only keep up to date, but can answer key questions such as: what does the detection of a harmful genetic variant mean? Which findings are urgent? Should I share this information with family members, and what is the best way to do that? How can I learn more about this condition? By answering as many of these questions as possible and referring our patients and families to support resources, we can provide relief and a level of comfort."

## Closing the Gap

Due in part to the skyrocketing popularity of online companies such as 23 and Me and Ancestry.com, as well as the vast number of genetic tests that are available to the medical community, the need for genetic counselors has never been greater. In fact, the U.S. Bureau of Labor projects that demand for the profession will grow nearly 30 percent between 2016 and 2026.

According to Berliner, entrance into Bay Path's program is extremely competitive: "We are one of 49 colleges and universities in North America that offer a master's degree in genetic counseling, and we were the first, and

now one of only two online programs in the country. Although students are required to come to campus for two weekends a year, all their didactic learning is done online and their clinical rotations can usually be arranged near where students live. These factors make the program incredibly convenient for students. And with the increasing use of remote genetic counseling for rural or underserved areas of our country, our students' comfort with technology definitely gives them a leg up."

## What does the Future Hold?

Technology will continue to have an impact on genetic testing, and software companies are already looking at artificial intelligence tools. It may be sooner rather than later that parents could leave the hospital with a complete genetic profile of their child. But no matter the advances or the possibilities, nothing can replace the high-touch relationship between patient and genetic counselor. After all, in the end, we are all human, and a caring heart and sympathetic ear can be the best medicine of all.

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**Need to know more about genetic counselors?**  
Visit [www.nsgc.org](http://www.nsgc.org)

Visit [www.baypath.edu/geneticcounseling](http://www.baypath.edu/geneticcounseling) to  
learn more about our MS in Genetic Counseling.

### Accreditation

The Masters of Science in Genetic Counseling Program at Bay Path University is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling, Inc., 7918 Jones Branch Drive, Ste. 300, McLean, VA 22102. Telephone: (703) 506-7667



## Meet Megan Parker G'19

As a student at North Carolina State University majoring in biology, Megan Parker fell in love with the field of genetics in her sophomore year. After graduation, she worked at the Duke University Eye Center doing molecular genetics research in the area of exfoliation glaucoma. She enjoyed the research, but missed interacting with people. Then she learned about the genetic counseling program at Bay Path. Megan applied and was accepted.

Although she had never enrolled in an online program, she found the transition to the virtual learning experience very easy. It was her pediatric genetic counseling practicum at St. Jude's Hospital in Memphis, TN, that ignited her passion. She discovered that working on the "Gene Team" at St. Jude's met and exceeded her expectations for the profession. After graduating from Bay Path, Megan is returning to Memphis to be a genetic counselor at LeBonheur Children's Hospital, one of the top ranked children's hospitals in the country.

She is thrilled to be doing what she loves.

*Megan Parker G'19 made history as a member of the inaugural class in genetic counseling.*



# All Rise



Whether it's the hum of construction equipment, the bees in a revamped city park or the voices of a crowd catching an outdoor concert, there's a buzz in Springfield.

In a commercial for MGM Springfield, a jubilant procession of beautiful, multi-ethnic merry-makers crosses Memorial Bridge into the city's downtown. Even though the ad is essentially selling Vegas-style fun, there's a deeper sentiment in the imagery. That ebullient group coming over the bridge captures the drive—and the groove—of those who are working to usher Springfield into its next era.

Since the June 2011 tornado, more than \$4 billion in construction projects have been completed or are in the planning process, including \$400.4 million in new projects announced since March 2018. According to Brian Connors, Deputy Director of Economic Development for the City of Springfield, "This is an unprecedented number for a city of Springfield's size." Projects slated for the city include residential units, hotels and a downtown dining district.

Bay Path is well represented in a league of movers, shakers and change makers who are bringing their talents to Springfield's next chapter. Meet the Bay Path alumni who are helping shape Springfield's next era.



# BAY PATH ALUMNI HELP SHAPE A NEW ERA IN SPRINGFIELD



## **Lindsay Hackett '03 G'09**

*Budget Director, Office of the Mayor*

A love of numbers, a knack for data and a sentimental connection to Springfield landed Lindsay Hackett '03 G'09 her current job. As the city's Budget Director, she oversees a \$682 million budget, the amount it takes to run the police, fire and municipal departments, without neglecting roads, school buildings, parks or any other infrastructural necessities.

Although raised in Palmer, Hackett seemed pulled to Springfield at every phase of her life.

"I remember taking the bus to Johnson's Bookstore on Main Street with my grandmother and then seeing my Pepe, who was a Springfield police officer on Main Street, doing his job. My great grandparents were very active in the community, and I imagine them walking up the stairs to City Hall, a place I come every day for work. It's all full circle."

For Hackett, a self-professed "numbers geek" who received her master's degree in Communications and Information Management and bachelor's in Liberal Studies at Bay Path, the pragmatism of balancing finances and projecting revenues is tinged with the thrill that comes from seeing ideas evolve

**"We're bringing a sort of glamour and nostalgia back to the City of Firsts."**

into realized projects, such as the MGM casino, or community initiatives, such as a youth reading program run through the city's libraries. "To me, a number is a number, and I came to my finance and budget geekiness from data. As far as my love for data, that came through the Communications and Information Science program and Professor Richard Briotta, who was the greatest."



Lindsay Hackett '03 G'09

Today, Hackett lives with her husband and daughter in the city's Sixteen Acres neighborhood. Her past, present and future relationship to Springfield gives her an optimal vantage point for watching—and helping—it change.

"The casino won't solve all of our problems. We need the spin-off effect; we need jobs to come here. We need restaurants to open. We need people to come to the city and eat at the restaurants. We need people to live here and send their kids to school here. We're the City of Firsts, and there's a sort of glamour and nostalgia in that. We're bringing it back."

### Alisa Garanzha G'17

*Owner, Naismith's Pub & Pretzel*

When Alisa Garanzha G'17 was seven years old, a pack of bubble gum at a corner store in her Kiev, Ukraine neighborhood sent her down a pivotal path. When repeated pleas for the gum were met with a steady stream of parental "no's," she headed into her backyard, picked bunches of flowers, and sold them as bouquets to sidewalk passers. Needless to say, she got the gum.

Years later, she brought that entrepreneurial instinct to western Massachusetts, where she channeled it into an MBA in Entrepreneurial Thinking and Innovative Practices at Bay Path, and now, a restaurant in downtown Springfield, Naismith's Pub & Pretzel.

While at Bay Path, her capstone project focused on efficient reuse of large retail spaces. The program also introduced her to local resources available for burgeoning business owners, including the Massachusetts Small Business Development Center. Wheels started to turn. "It's way more difficult to open a business in the Ukraine. Unless you have a ton of money, you can't get credit. Springfield has a lot of community programs that help you build a business. There are so many opportunities for immigrants, especially for start-ups," she notes.

Seeing potential in the city's pristine architecture and downtown

vibe, Garanzha and her husband, Ed Kenney, a Springfield native she describes as a "real estate guy," bought the Worthington Street building that houses the restaurant. They live in one of its loft apartments as neighbors (and landlords) to tenants who also appreciate the density, energy—and volume—of city living. "Our tenants are young professionals, millennials, a few from the restaurant industry. They're in the heart of downtown, close to the museums and the restaurants...they love it."

When the couple first viewed the building's ground floor, it was dirty, disheveled and strewn with remnants of the previous Naismith's Pub which had closed in 2008. As the beauty of its blonde wood, steel fixtures and tin ceilings were gradually revealed, the idea of leasing the space to another restaurateur morphed into Garanzha's own visions for it.

They kept the iconic name for a few reasons. A former college basketball player, Garanzha states, "When I learned that Naismith invented basketball here, I felt like the name fit."

Naismith's Pub & Pretzel offers a menu of select craft beers and pub food mainstays, developed around the soft pretzels Garanzha grew up with in the Ukraine. Served fresh from the oven, the

*"There are so many opportunities... It's exciting to be part of this revitalization. I really believe in Springfield."*

pretzels are dense, bready and subtly sweet, punched up with of a sprinkle of salt. They're based on a recipe from Garanzha's grandmother, "an amazing cook. My whole neighborhood would smell these pretzels and come over to get one."



Julie Pagnoni, bartender, left, and Alisa Garanzha G'17



In many ways, Garanzha is carrying on a Springfield tradition. “The community helped me build this place, and I’m hoping to help the community by giving them a place to come and new things to try. It’s exciting to be a part of this revitalization, and I really believe in Springfield.”

### **Samalid Hogan G’12**

*Regional Director, Massachusetts Small Business Development Center, Western Regional Office*

Samalid Hogan G’12 knows the exact date she arrived in Springfield. It was January 16, 1996, when, at 16 years old, she moved from Puerto Rico with her mother and two siblings. At the time, she couldn’t have imagined the ways the city would shape her—or how she would shape it.

“My whole career has been based on helping improve economic development opportunities, creating economic opportunities for people, improving access to capital for small businesses, and working on community projects and infrastructure projects here in the city,” Hogan explains. She has the resume to back up that statement.

Upon receiving her bachelor’s degree in economics from UMass Amherst, Hogan (nee Maldonado) went to work for State Representative Cheryl Coakley-Rivera’s office, moving on to future jobs with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and the City of Springfield.

“I worked for the city for eight years. I was in charge of bringing in the community to discuss plans for revitalizing the South

End, not just the infrastructure, but also the programming, the park, the Hollywood section. These were areas that had prostitution, drugs, real public safety concerns, so my time was dedicated to those issues.”

It was during her time working for the city that she enrolled in Bay Path’s MBA in Entrepreneurial Thinking and Innovative Practices. “Bay Path gave me the tools and the confidence to just go for it, put together my business plan and then sell it.” That plan resulted in CoWork Springfield, the city’s first membership-based co-working space, where Hogan



Samalid Hogan G’12

focused on creating a culture of collaboration and networking for small businesses and independent contractors.

In her current role as Regional Director for the Massachusetts Small Business Development Center’s Western Massachusetts office, she’s able to continue to support aspiring business owners and entrepreneurs, helping them access capital and resources to either start or grow their businesses.

In the flurry of pomp and hype that positions a brand, spanking new casino as the rising tide that will lift all boats, Hogan is the calm in the storm. When discussing the casino, she’s quick to look past the narrative that portrays MGM as the embodiment of the city’s cosmopolitan make-over and more excited to

“Springfield needs people with vision, commitment and resources to come and invest. I hope to be one of those people.”

speak to the ways the tax revenue it generates can be channeled into the nitty gritty of public safety and public works; initiatives that will inevitably trickle down to the small business owners and community members.

“In the South End, it’s night and day from where it was a decade ago. There’s so much opportunity to revitalize some of our vacant spaces with offices, headquarters and even some retail, but we need people with vision, commitment and resources to come and invest. I’m hoping, in the next 10 years or so, to be one of those people. Stay tuned!”





# PART OF THE SOLUTION



Ernest Darkoh G'16, Nathaniel Moore G'14, and Carly Muniz G'16 share their journeys as physician assistants in emergency departments.

A visit to the emergency department (ED) is a common experience for most Americans. Whether you are the patient or someone you know is, it is the ED that treats the unexpected such as a car accident, broken bone, heart attack, or an ill child. For many of us, there is a sense of relief there is somewhere to go at any hour of the day or night. In fact, the latest statistics from 2016, as reported in Becker's Hospital Review, indicate that in the U.S. there were 42 ED visits per 100 persons. And for the last 25 years, the number of visits by Americans to the ED has been going up year after year. Go to any ED at any hospital and you will find the same scenario: they are full of people.

## Emergency Departments: The Litmus Test for American Healthcare

There are many reasons why emergency room visits continue to rise, even though it is one of the most expensive options in healthcare.

First, if a primary care doctor or other health practitioner is not available, people turn to EDs. Certainly, when it is midnight or off hours, the ED may be the only option. But there is another underlying problem—there are not enough primary care doctors, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners to take care of the population, regardless if they reside in the cities or rural towns. The ED may be the only place to go.

Second, there is a lack of awareness of options. People want the comprehensive care and attention the EDs provide. In the words of Dr. Paul Seward, an emergency room doctor for almost 50 years and author of *Patient Care: Death and Life in the Emergency Room* (Catapult, July 2018), “Using emergency departments to create access to healthcare is like putting a snowplow on a Porsche.”

Finally, by law, emergency departments cannot turn people away for treatment and are required to admit regardless of a person’s ability to pay. It is an incredible promise, but one that is taxing the system to capacity.

Despite these troubles, EDs provide immediate and lifesaving care. They are in their own unique ways responding to this critical problem.

### Part of the Solution

One of the solutions is the increasing use of physician assistants (PA) on the front line of EDs. Although the intention of EDs is to treat severe and life-threatening injuries, in reality, many patients use EDs for non-life threatening conditions, such as the flu, broken bones, cuts and viral infections. Without a doubt, PAs help shoulder the pressure of patient volume in the ED.

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Working in an emergency department has been compared to ‘drinking from a fire hydrant’ all day.

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Since the first graduating class of Bay Path’s MS in Physician Assistant Studies in 2014, several physician assistant alumni have chosen to concentrate in emergency medicine. For Ernest Darkoh G’16, Nathaniel Moore G’14, and Carly Muniz G’16, they couldn’t imagine being anywhere else but in the ED. When asked what specifically drew them to work in an environment that is a ceaseless hub of activity, their answers were all the same: you see patients at all ages and stages of their lives; you treat cases and situations that cut across the medical spectrum; and, most important, you are part of a supportive team of medical providers with an emphasis on the word team.

“Since I was a young boy, I knew I wanted a career in medicine. When I was growing up, my best friend’s father was an ED doctor at Mercy Medical Center,” states Ernest Darkoh. “I had the opportunity to shadow him, and I saw that the ED was an exciting place to practice medicine. From the moment I entered the PA program, I knew this was my area of focus. As a first-year PA student,

## A Half Century of Emergency Care

It was the availability of Medicare and Medicaid in 1965 that ushered in a new era of healthcare in America. Until that time, hospitals were largely community funded and emergency care was limited. For the most part, doctors still visited patients in their home.

In the 1970s and 1980s, emergency medicine became more exact. Professional organizations were formed; best practices established; and examinations and certifications within the field were required.

Now, decades later, emergency care is at a crossroads as America struggles with the escalating costs of healthcare and the need for more trained medical professionals. Once more, emergency care departments are having to rethink how they deliver services while saving lives.

I took part in a class trip to the UMass Memorial Medical Center and I was so impressed with the areas of specialties it offered, and it was a teaching hospital. When a position in the ED opened up, I applied. I feel very lucky to work here.” The UMass Memorial Medical Center is the clinical partner for the UMass Medical School, and the largest health care system in Central Massachusetts.

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## There is no doubt physician assistants help shoulder the pressure of increased patient volume in EDs.

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For Nathaniel “Than” Moore, it was a clinical rotation in an ED that convinced him this was his calling. “Initially, when I entered the PA program at Bay Path, I thought I would go into pediatrics or orthopedic medicine. But when I did my ED rotation at MaineGeneral Medical Center, I found it was the perfect blend of surgery, diagnostics, and other areas of medicine. I would be a master of all crafts.” Than applied and was accepted to a position at the University of Vermont Medical Center, a Level 1 trauma center and partner with the University of Vermont College of Medicine. The Center sees over 65,000 patients in a calendar year and serves a population area of over one million people.

Carly Muniz’s journey to the ED also began in her clinical rotations as a graduate student. “While I enjoyed aspects of all rotations, I realized on my first day of emergency medicine rotation that it was the best specialty for me. Emergency med-

icine is fast paced, requires technical skills, a vast knowledge of medicine in pediatrics to adolescents along with the elderly population, the ability to establish patient rapport within seconds and the aptitude to integrate limited information rapidly. Preceptors commented that my strengths included adapting rapidly to change, instilling confidence and trust with patients, having great communication and teamwork skills, including dealing with challenging personalities. This is why I chose

Emergency Medicine!” Carly now works at the Holyoke Medical Center ED which was recently renovated in 2017. The state-of-the-art ED also has a Fast Track section which focuses on quick turn arounds—less than two hours—for patients with non-life threatening conditions.

The EDs of each of these Bay Path PAs may be strikingly different, but Ernest, Than and Carly each point to a positive feature that defines their roles—autonomy. Although they all work on teams and report to a doctor on call, they are expected to be independent and confident in their decision making. “The ED quickly developed my skills as a

PA,” said Than. “With each new patient experience, I gained skills that attributed to my diverse skillset. There were cases that I became more comfortable treating. However, given the chaotic, humbling environment, I always knew when to turn to my fellow physician and PA colleagues with questions.”

### **Want to work in the ED? Here are some of the qualities you need.**

Confidence is only one of the qualities a PA needs to succeed in the ED. “It’s so important to be a strong communicator,” according to Ernest. “Often, we are the first person the patient meets when they are brought through the door. We have to develop an instant relationship with the patient and communicate with them appropriately.”



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## Meet Carly Muniz G'16

Carly attended Our Lady of the Elms College, graduating with a major in biology and a minor in chemistry. In 2018, Carly was employee of the year for the ED at Holyoke Medical Center. To read more about Carly's journey visit the Bay Pathway Online at [www.baypath.edu/baypathway](http://www.baypath.edu/baypathway).



Carly agrees with Ernest and adds: "You also need great teamwork skills. EDs are all about the team. Yet, individually, PAs need to be compassionate and optimistic. Finally, it's important to separate work and home life. There needs to be a balance." Than best summed up a typical day in the ED and the soft skills PAs need to succeed: "It is like 'drinking from a fire hydrant' all day. Even though it is very rewarding, it can be very stressful. People are always coming up to you and asking questions. You have to keep a level and intelligent head on your shoulders and know your team has your back."

### Looking to the Future

At each of these hospitals, PAs already make up a significant percentage of the team, their numbers varying from shift to shift. They have learned, as well as many others, that the benefits of using PAs are enormous: lower costs, shared workload, enhanced patient attention, and increased throughput of patients resulting in better outcomes and overall environments for EDs. And the importance of PAs will only grow.

The Association of American Medical Colleges forecasts that in 15 years the United States will face a deficit of up to 159,300 physicians. The American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) reaffirmed that saying, "there is currently a significant shortage of physicians appropriately trained and certified in emergency medicine." Hospitals have already felt the squeeze and are turning to PAs, as well as nurse practitioners, to fill the gap in ED services. That makes the PA profession one of the most sought after career paths with the Bureau of Labor Statistics projecting that employment of physician assistants is expected to grow 37 percent by 2026, much faster than the average for many occupations.

Ernest, Than and Carly all agree it is inevitable that the numbers of PAs will increase in EDs. They are seeing that trend already. Yet, it is more than just statistics. As the profession has grown in reputation, people are growing accustomed to having a PA administer treatment. Sometimes, patients even ask for a PA. In the coming years, that may be a request heard over and over again.



## Meet Ernest Darkoh G'16

Raised in Springfield, MA, Ernest graduated from the University of Massachusetts Amherst with a degree in biology. A competitive individual, his favorite sport to play is basketball. Much like in the workplace, basketball always pushes Ernest to work harder and challenges him to be better.

## Meet Nathaniel "Than" Moore G'14

Than Moore broke ground as a member of the inaugural class in the MS in Physician Assistant Studies. As an undergraduate, he attended Colby College, majoring in biology and mathematics. A New England native, he is an avid outdoorsman and also teaches a wilderness medicine course.





# One Day, We Had a Vision to Bring And then, to Bring College to



**ONE DAY  
to TODAY**

— 20 YEARS —

**10.26.19**

**Save The Date  
to Celebrate**



# More Amazing Women to College

## More Amazing Women

**Twenty years later, we're celebrating the women who've helped turn this vision into degrees, careers and stories of impact and inspiration.**

The revolution started quietly one Saturday morning in 1999. A small group of women, ranging in age from 25 to 60, arrived promptly at 7:30 AM, opened their clean, blank notebooks and thereby changed all preconceived notions of who college is for—and how it should be experienced—as the first students in the **One Day A Week Saturday program**.

Radical by design, the One Day program acknowledged and respected the circumstances that shape women's lives—motherhood, day jobs and endless to-do lists—by holding classes on Saturday.

Coming together every Saturday for 10 hours of classes, students inevitably created a network of support, **a sense of community and a culture of persistence**, born out of the shared experience of returning to school as adult women. Beyond its manageable format, the program delivered on a core principle that underscores the women's college experience: sisterhood is powerful.

The success of the One Day program validated the notion that adult women were **hungry for advancement, knowledge and degrees**, and that they would commit themselves to a college program if it accommodated their busy schedules. When advancements in technology gave way to virtual classrooms, digital learning materials and online collaboration, Bay Path seized both the opportunity—and the challenge—to apply that notion to an online program.

The University reached out to its One Day students, along with faculty, staff and alumni, for input on creating a collaborative and engaging instruction model, and in 2013, launched the country's first all-women, all online bachelor's degree program, **The American Women's College (TAWC)**.

Building on the One Day program, TAWC's hallmark feature is its Social Online Universal Learning (SOUL) adaptive learning approach. Through SOUL, students receive personalized on-boarding and the ongoing support of an educator coach, along with virtual learning communities for students to engage and network with their classmates.

Six years later, TAWC steadily gains attention and accolades, along with resources to strengthen its mission.

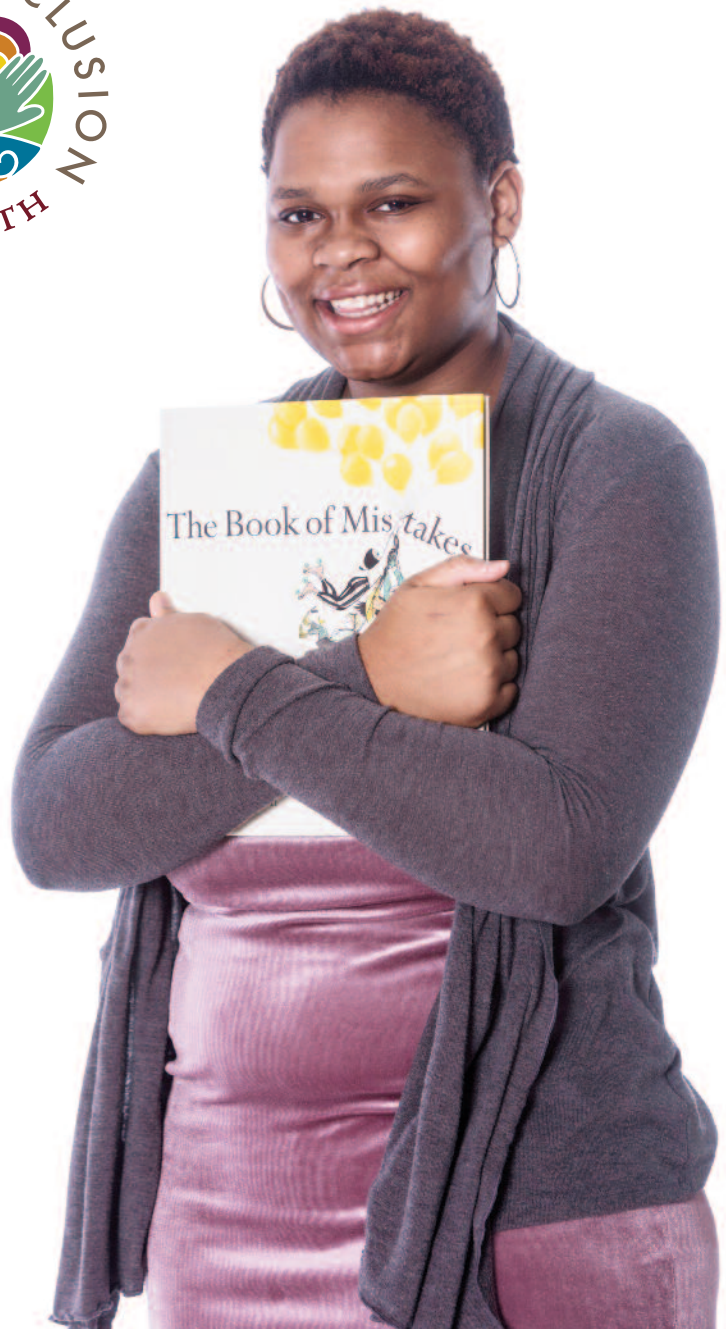
As the ambition, determination, and drive of our students continues to inspire us, we're reflecting on Bay Path's vision of **expanding access to education, employment and self-determinism to adult women**. By saluting the students, professors and leaders who've shaped the university's reputation as a groundbreaking, game-changing institution, we look to channel that vision—and **the passion and innovation that drives it**—into the future.



# #IAmBayPath

HOW STORYTELLING FROM STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF ARE SHAPING A CULTURE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AT BAY PATH.

**OWNING YOUR OWN LANGUAGE. CELEBRATING ONE'S HERITAGE.  
DEALING WITH IMPOSTOR SYNDROME. COMING OUT.**





These are just some of the personal reflections from the Bay Path community that have been captured in the **I Am Bay Path Storytelling Project**. The stories go beneath the surface, allowing the storyteller to share experiences that are profound lessons about friendship, family, cooperation, courage, empathy, and perseverance against inequality. More important, they create a social fabric that allows all of us to see the richness of our community. Each month, new stories will be added to the I Am Bay Path Storytelling Project, and they can be found on the website ([www.baypath.edu/IAmBayPath](http://www.baypath.edu/IAmBayPath)). Check it out, or follow #IAmBayPath on one of the University's social media channels.

The **I Am Bay Path Storytelling Project** grew out of the University's Diversity and Inclusion initiative as part of Vision 2020.







## The 122nd Commencement of Bay Path University

Over 750 undergraduate and graduate students marched across the MassMutual Center stage as part of Bay Path's 122nd Commencement ceremonies held on Sunday, May 19, including the inaugural class for the Occupational Therapy Doctorate program. Honorary degrees were conferred on Commencement Speaker Dr. Kimberley Roberts, Strategy and Operations Manager for the Engineering Education Group at Google, Inc., and Dr. George Frederick Kalf, Professor Emeritus of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology of Thomas Jefferson University.



Above: They did it! A group of joyful graduates receiving their master's degree.

Above left: Dr. George F. Kalf, President Leary, and Dr. Kimberley Roberts take a moment before commencement.

## 2019 Donna Shavlik Award Presented to President Leary

On Saturday, March 9, Bay Path's President Carol Leary received the prestigious 2019 Donna Shavlik Award from the American Council of Education at their annual Women's Leadership Dinner as part of the 101st Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. President Leary joins an illustrious group of women who have been recognized for their contributions to education, including Donna Shalala, former president of the University of Miami and US Secretary of Health and Human Services, and now a US Congresswoman representing Florida's 27th district; and Beverly Tatum, former acting president of Mt. Holyoke and President Emerita of Spelman College.

One of the most significant awards in higher education, ACE established the Donna Shavlik Award to honor the long and outstanding service of Donna Shavlik, former director of ACE's Office of Women in Higher Education. Presented annually, the award honors an individual who demonstrates a sustained commitment to advancing women in higher education through leadership and career development, campus climate, and mentoring.

Pictured below, from left: Christina Cutlip, senior managing director and head of National Advocacy and Federal Relations Liaison, TIAA; Sherri Lind Hughes, associate vice president, ACE Leadership; ACE President Ted Mitchell; Carol Leary, president, Bay Path University; Gailda Pitre Davis, director, ACE Leadership; Christina Proscia, managing director, Institutional Client Services, TIAA.







## Konnichiwa. Hello. Bay Path Greets Japanese Exchange Students

Six students from Jissen Women's University in Tokyo, Japan traveled halfway around the globe to come to Bay Path University for a week of learning, adventure, and cultural interchange with students from The American Women's College. Bay Path was selected as one of only two US institutions to take part in the TEamUP project which pairs US and Japanese institutions together to develop a dual hybrid exchange program and Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) course. The Bay Path-Jissen course will focus on women's leadership in Japan and America. During their weeklong stay, students from Jissen were able to visit the Bay Path campus where they met with students and had tea with President Leary. They also took in New York City, Boston, Northampton, the Springfield-area museums, LEGO, and Yankee Candle, ending their trip at the Bay Path Women's Leadership Conference, and with a true taste of Springfield with a farewell dinner at Red Rose Pizzeria. Later this year, students from Bay Path's The American Women's College (TAWC) will visit Japan. Stay tuned for more updates!

## New Doctorate Program in Higher Education Leadership and Organizational Studies

Bay Path has launched its third doctoral program, the Ed.D. in Higher Education Leadership and Organizational Studies (HELOS). As the first program in the country to address both the technical and adaptive challenges now facing nearly all higher education institutions, the HELOS degree will empower students with the skillset and mindset to transform colleges and universities into responsive, nimble and resilient institutions. This one-of-a-kind program was conceived and designed by Bay Path Provost Melissa Morriss-Olson, who will also serve as its founding director.

Delivered in a completely online format, with one immersive weekend workshop per year held on Bay Path's Longmeadow campus, the program provides flexibility along with access to a dynamic online community of peers and faculty. Applications are currently being accepted for an October 2019 start date.



**Top:** Amanda Gould, Chief Administrative Officer at The American Women's College (on far left) and President Leary (on far right) pose for a photo with exchange students from Jissen Women's University and fellow exchange students, faculty and staff from The American Women's College at Bay Path's Women's Leadership Conference.

**Above:** Bay Path forensic science major Mariellys Pena '19 shows the workings of an ICP mass spectrometer to Governor Baker.

## Governor Baker Pays a Visit

In December 2018, Governor Charlie Baker visited Bay Path to meet with professors, students, and grant partners who are leading efforts on a MassTech Collaborative Grant. The \$250,000 grant helps foster public-private collaboration to increase the State's readiness against cybersecurity attacks, while encouraging more students to enter cybersecurity as a career path. The University is one of three organizations that received grant funding and is launching a pilot project to address the growing need for diverse, skilled cybersecurity specialists in Massachusetts. The project will enable 30 undergraduate and graduate cybersecurity students, who are primarily women, to serve as paid interns on cybersecurity teams that provide cyber assessments at reduced costs for small- and mid-sized manufacturing companies. Assistant Professor Matt Smith, director of computer science and cybersecurity programs is shepherding the efforts of the grant in coordination with Paragus IT of Hadley, MA: "Students have already been going into companies and looking at network vulnerabilities and making live assessments. At the end of the audit, they provide a report. This experience is something our students can include on their resumes and strengthens their job prospects. To date, all the companies have loved the work that has been provided. It's a great example of the cyber ecosystem at its best." Stay tuned for more updates on this project...



## Strada Education Network Grant

Bay Path University and The American Women's College was named as a winner of a philanthropic funding contest by national nonprofit Strada Education Network. One of seven national winners, the \$1,582,600 grant is for a three-year project titled "Closing the Gaps: Building Pathways for Adult Women in a Technology-Driven Workforce." Administered

**THE  
American  
Women's  
COLLEGE**

**BAY PATH UNIVERSITY**

through The American Women's College, the project will address a critical national need for developing a digitally fluent workforce. Several partners are participating in the implementation of the grant including Eco-

nomic Development Council of Western Massachusetts, MassHire Hampden County Workforce Board, MassHire Franklin Hampshire Workforce Board, Massachusetts Technology Leadership Council, Pass the Torch for Women, PSI Services, Jeannette Rankin Women's Scholarship Fund, Springfield Technical Community College, University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute, and the Center for Educational Policy at the College of Education, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

## The Google Bay Path Partnership Google Comes to the Classroom

Google and many other companies have been fostering partnerships with higher education institutions not only in the area of research, but with initiatives to increase the talent pipeline and prepare a workforce with the most cutting-edge skills and knowledge. For the last several months, Bay Path has been working collaboratively with Google to offer "Fundamentals of Python" to students from any major, and "How to Become a Data Scientist." Both the class syllabi and curriculums have been developed by Google but modified by the Bay Path faculty to fit into the current learning environment. These courses aim to increase undergraduate access to quality data science and machine learning education by leveraging new technologies and teaching styles. Bay Path is one of a select group of colleges and universities and one of four women's colleges selected nationally to collaborate with Google to pilot their offerings in their new Applied Computing Series.



Venessa O'Brien '38

## Carpe Diem. Carpe Century.

When Venessa O'Brien '38 walked into the living room of Empsall Hall, she thought she was going to a Bay Path event, one of many she has attended over the decades. Much to her surprise, she was greeted by over 75 well-wishers who had gathered to celebrate her 100th birthday. A graduate of the Bay Path Institute, Venessa is now the oldest living alumna of Bay Path University. At the official birthday toast, President Leary saluted her with these words: "I have known Venessa for many years. Whether it is joining students on the annual Capitals of the World trip or attending Reunion, she is there. Her support is incredible. More important, Venessa is a kind, gracious, and generous woman who is a role model for all of us. As I look around and see her surrounded by family and friends, I can see that she has star power. And we are honored to be in her in presence."

*From a small town in Maine, Venessa O'Brien '38 went on to make her mark on the world. The first female outside sales engineer for General Electric, she has been recognized for her many accomplishments, including the 2013 Standing on Her Shoulders Award from the Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts. Visit [www.baypath.edu/baypathway](http://www.baypath.edu/baypathway) to read the rest of her story.*



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# PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

## Seven New Members Elected to the Bay Path University Board of Trustees



From left: Michelle Wirth, Laura Grondin, Wayne Webster, Andrea Hill-Cataldo, Kirk Arnold, Lamont Clemons, and Stefano Marini

Seven new members have been elected to the Bay Path University Board of Trustees. **Kirk Arnold**, technology executive; **Lamont Clemons**, Senior Vice President, Proton Energy and Executive Vice President, S-Cel-O Painting; **Laura Grondin**, President and CEO of Virginia Industries, Inc.; **Andrea Hill-Cataldo**, Founder and President of Johnson & Hill Staffing; **Stefano Martini**, Chief Information Officer for MassMutual Financial Group; **Wayne Webster**, Vice President of Commercial Lending for Westfield Bank; and **Michelle Wirth**, owner, Mercedes-Benz of Springfield, will each serve a three-year term.

Visit [www.baypath.edu](http://www.baypath.edu) for additional background on our trustees.

## With Gratitude

At the May 20, 2019 Bay Path Board of Trustees meeting, several trustees were celebrated and thanked for their many years of service. Officially retiring from the Board were **Cindy Burke**, **Sam Hanmer**, **Barbara Sadowsky**, and **Gloria Smith**. Bay Path wishes to extend sincerest gratitude to all for their leadership, dedication, and generosity.



Burke



Hanmer



Sadowsky



Smith





Chadwick



Moran



Winters



Woytowicz



Zaskey

## Over Six Decades of Combined Service

At the University's annual Charity Recognition and Holiday Luncheon held in December, employees who have retired in the past calendar year were acknowledged by the Bay Path community. In 2018, we said good bye to several dear friends and co-workers. Together, they represented over 60 years of service, and they will be greatly missed! Congratulations and best wishes on the next step in their life journey to: **Sarah Chadwick G'01 G'16**, Director of Recruitment Events and Admissions, The American Women's College; **Michael Moran**, Director of Hatch Library; **Carol Winters**, Professor of Psychology; **Diane Woytowicz**, Assistant Fieldwork Coordinator and Operations Manager, Occupational Therapy Program; and **Regina Zaskey G'10**, Director of Advancement Services.

## Three New Women Leaders Inducted into Bay Path's 21st Century Business Leaders Hall of Fame

At the 24th Annual Women's Leadership Conference, Bay Path was pleased to honor three exemplary women who were inducted into the 21st Century Women Business Leaders Hall of Fame: Dr. Ann Errichetti, Kate Kane, and Mel Robbins. Established in 2004, over the years the Hall of Fame has recognized dozens of women who have demonstrated leadership qualities that have made them role models for all women. The Hall of Fame selection criteria includes qualities such as risk taking, possessing an entrepreneurial spirit, fostering teamwork, incorporating integrity and a strong sense of ethics, and demonstrating a collaborative management style, among others. Each of the women who have been selected have left a lasting legacy in their respective fields, from law to medicine to philanthropy. To learn more about this year's awardees and the 21st Century Women Business Leaders Hall of Fame, visit [www.baypath.edu/about/women-business-leaders-hall-of-fame](http://www.baypath.edu/about/women-business-leaders-hall-of-fame).



From left, Mel Robbins, entrepreneur and best-selling author of *The Five Second Rule*; Kate Kane, community volunteer and managing director and wealth management advisor for Northwestern Mutual in Springfield, MA; and Dr. Ann Errichetti, a Fellow in the American College of Cardiology and a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

## LETTER FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Greetings Fellow Alumni!

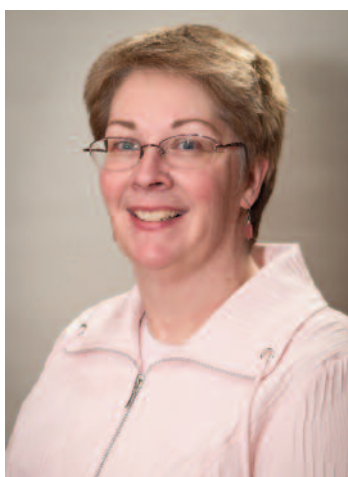
In reflecting upon the second year of serving as your Council President, it has become apparent to me that many of our 16,000 plus alumni may not even know the Council exists, who we are, what our purpose is, and what some of our contributions to the University have been. I am excited that the following pages will help give an overview of the important work the Council is doing on behalf of you, the alumni of Bay Path. I hope it helps you understand the value we provide to alumni, how we support current students, and the overall impact we have on helping the University achieve some of its goals. I have no doubt you will be just as proud as I am, if not even more, of the alumni who have stepped forward to give their time, talent and treasure in an effort to support the University.

Most importantly, I hope hearing about these dedicated alumni will inspire you to consider how you are currently fulfilling the alumni pledge we all took when we graduated:

*As a member of the Bay Path University Alumni Association, I pledge to actively support the University and the Association by promoting Bay Path's proud history, by offering my service to the University and the Association, and by contributing to Bay Path's continued growth and well-being. I promise to be loyal to my alma mater and to my fellow alumni, and to conduct myself in the highest traditions set forth by the University.*

In closing, I thank you for the privilege of serving as your President, as it has been an immeasurably rewarding experience. I also want to extend my thanks to the staff at Bay Path who work diligently as the Council's partners – without their support, we would not be able to accomplish all that we have already achieved, or pursue everything we plan to in the coming year.

Warmest Regards,  
Lynn Pellerano '11 G'13  
President, Alumni Association Council  
Customer Service, MassMutual



## Bay Path University Alumni Association Council

Lynn Pellerano '11 G'13 *Council President*  
Lindsay Beer G'17  
Nekpo Brown G'08  
Dawn Bryden '05 G'07  
Josie Camerota '06  
Michelle Cotto '03  
Maria Furlow '10 G'12  
Tori Gomez '11  
Thea Katsounakis '70  
Jen Kubala Horn '00  
Haydee Lamberty-Rodriguez '04  
Michelle La Vallee '87  
Lindsie Lavin '10  
Jarrod Liebel '03  
Louise Locario G'09  
Ann Moulton '09  
Norma Nunnally '01  
Stephanie O'Leary '05 G'16 G'17  
Gillian Palmer G'12  
Denise Pape '84  
Courtney Phillips '06  
Lynn Polaski '88 G'10  
Victoria Rodriguez '12 G'16  
Amy Rust '18  
Alison Schoen '15  
Courtney Whalen '00 G'09  
Adam Zinkievich G'12

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION COUNCIL MISSION

The Alumni Association Council is dedicated to inspiring lifelong connections with the University by fostering a spirit of community among all alumni, students, faculty, and staff. The Council will support the mission and vision of Bay Path University by serving as ambassadors, representing the interests of alumni, and providing opportunities for alumni engagement.



Throughout the year, the Alumni Association Council (AAC) represents Bay Path alumni at events across campus and beyond. Whether it's Reunion, the Women's Leadership Conference, On the Move Forum, or Munchie Mania, the Alumni Association Council are your ambassadors working to strengthen the ties between alumni, current Bay Path students, and the community at large. In all they do, they enthusiastically embrace our University's motto: *Carpe Diem!*



Left: An annual tradition, President Leary welcomes the AAC to her home for the holiday pot luck and an evening of good cheer.

Below: Lee Hart '69 represented the 50th Reunion Class at the 122nd Commencement .



Bottom: Among commencement week events, the Strawberries and Champagne receptions tops the list for our students!

Above: Who can forget Munchie Mania during finals? The AAC crew were on hand to scoop ice cream and serve pizza while looking the part with aprons and the official chef hats.

Left: There is no better day to be remembered than Valentine's Day. Members of the AAC put aside cell phones and closed their email boxes to write personal notes to donors, thanking them for their support of our students.



Below: Every year at Commencement the "Steam Team" draws a crowd. Whether it's steaming out wrinkles, pinning graduation hoods, or handing out bobby pins to keep mortar board in place, they are saving the day for our future alumni. From left: Nekpo Brown G'08, Courtney Whalen '00 G'09, Stephanie O'Leary '05 G'16 G'17, Dawn Bryden '05 G'07, Ann Moulton '09, Thea Katsounakis '70, Norma Nunnally '01.





# Alumni Out and About

Throughout the year, there is something happening for all Bay Path alumni and friends to enjoy. Events are not only fun and a great way to stay connected to Bay Path, but can grow professional networks and create new friendships along the way. Watch for upcoming events by visiting the website or subscribe to the *Alma Matters* newsletter. Visit [www.baypath.edu/alumni/connect](http://www.baypath.edu/alumni/connect) or email [alumni@baypath.edu](mailto:alumni@baypath.edu) to subscribe.



*October 2018* We applaud our supporters! *The Power to Dream* was the theme for the 2018 annual Millennium Society Donor Recognition Event for leadership level donors held at Longmeadow Country Club. To our generous contributors, thank you, again, for believing in our mission and helping our students bring their dreams to reality.



Left: *October 2018* Hanging out in the Big Apple before the show – over 90 alumni and friends traveled to Broadway to see the revival of *My Fair Lady*.

Above left: *My Fair Lady* cast member and alumna JoAnna Rhinehart '78 graciously arranged a meet and greet with the cast after the show.

Above center: *January 2019* President Leary hosted a dinner for Bay Path friends and donors in Scottsdale, AZ. Former trustee Cal Gauss and his wife Suzie attended.

Above right: *January 2019* Atlanta, GA, was another stop for a meet and greet with alumni. President Leary and Allison Gearing Kalill, vice president for development and planned giving, were in attendance.





March 2019 “Why Not Me?” was the theme for the 2019 Women’s Leadership Conference. Bay Path alumni, who are well represented at the event, proudly posed for the group photo.



Above: March 2019 Angelika Melien, leadership giving officer at Bay Path, met with alumni in Plano and San Antonio, TX. Above: from left: Betty Lange Notzon ’69, Angelika Melien, Lynn Bailey Coulombe ’63; Above right: from left, Angelika Melien, Denise Hansen Castricone ’94, Len Goldman, Sharon Pianka ’71, Chelsea Green-Williams ’18 and Logan Kleiman.



Right: April 2019 The Concord, MA, campus hosted the first Eastern Massachusetts alumni gathering where they learned about available services, toured the state-of-the-art facility, and had a chance to win great Bay Path swag!



Below: April 2019 Long-time Bay Path supporter Eileen Stern was celebrated at the 2019 Academic Achievement Day by students, faculty and staff. Eileen’s father was a graduate of Bay Path Institute, and, in her father’s memory, she established the Stern Science Research Lab and the “Stern Scholars.” In 1999, her first gift to Bay Path was used to purchase microscopes, and now, twenty years later, her generosity was acknowledged with a vintage Bay Path microscope.







Top: Honorary chairs of the Gala, from left to right: Tim and Carrie Sedwick Burr '86, Drew and Lauren Davis, Tiffany Cutting Madru G'11 and Ted Madru G'11, and Carol and Rick Steele, Jr.

Above: Dancing with the Stars' Lindsay Arnold was once again the guest judge at this year's competition.

Right: Scott and Lisa Cross Richardson '82 (center) pose with guest dancers from Ballroom Fever Dance Studio.

The Springfield Sheraton ballroom came alive for the 3rd Annual President's Gala. It was an evening of dance inspired by Broadway musicals, and made possible by over 70 event sponsors. A special thank you to Gunnar and Daryll Craven Sverrisson '98, owners and lead instructors at Ballroom Fever Dance Studio, who coached the competing dancers: Erin Hornyak, Bay Path Advisory Council member; Lamont Clemons, Bay Path Board of Trustees member; and Jillian Jusko, community partner.

Attendees enjoyed a delicious meal, witnessed exciting performances, danced the night away, bid on many different auction items, and raised over **\$360,000** in support of the **Bold Women's Scholarship** and **The Finish Line Fund!**

Through the generosity of many donors, Bay Path undergraduate students—traditional-aged as well as adult women, both online and on-ground—can now reach the most important finish line of all: graduation day. Thank you!

The dancers take a final bow, from left: Gunnar Sverrisson, Erin Hornyak, Mirror Ball winner Jillian Jusko, Lamont Clemons, and Daryll Sverrisson '98.







# Reunion 2018

On Saturday, October 27, the University held its annual Alumni Reunion. Although it was a rainy and blustery day, nothing could dampen the friendship and good cheer that warmed the hearts of all who attended the event. We welcomed alumni from all over New England, New York, Pennsylvania, and Florida, among other states, to reconnect with friends and their alma mater. The day kicked off with a "Mimosas Down Memory Lane" celebration in Empsall Hall for the 50th Reunion of the Class of 1968, and ended with a hilarious rendition of Carpool Karaoke with President Leary.



Top: Carpool Karaoke was the unexpected hit of the day.

Above: Class of 1968, 50th Reunion

Left: Bay Path University honored four remarkable alumnae during its annual Alumni Reunion. From left: Courtney Whalen '00 G'09, Power of One Award; Donna Janecek Drouin '68 G'08, James McGill '35 Carpe Diem Award; President Leary; Leslie Scheer '75, BOLD Woman Award; and Kristen Ferraro '94 '08, Recent Alumni Award.



# A SOLID RETURN ON



In June 2019, Pat Pierce, CFA, steps down as Chair of the Board of Trustees at Bay Path University. Her legacy will be felt in many ways, but none more impactful than her planned gift. Pat has made the largest bequest in the University's history, and through her philanthropy, established the **Patricia J. Pierce Student Achievement Fund** in support of programming and scholarship.

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It's clear that Pat Pierce cherishes every moment she has with students. She lights up, and her smile becomes infectious to those around her. Her genuine joy and interest rings through whether she is attending the Rose Ceremony for One Day and The American Women's College students, sitting in on a Student Government Association meeting, or listening to the experiences of students from the One America trip, an initiative that Pat has helped fund for the last eight years.

For Pat, this is why she is at Bay Path. The education of women matters. In her words, "Education provides the vitamins for a good life." It is no surprise that the mission of Bay Path is mirrored in her own personal mission statement, one she created upon her retirement: to help women succeed, flourish and rise to their potential.

Over the years, this connection with Bay Path has grown stronger. With a 30-plus year career in finance, equity



# INVESTMENT



“I BELIEVE  
MY GIFT IS  
100 TIMES  
MORE VALUABLE  
TO BAY PATH  
THAN TO OTHER  
SCHOOLS.”

Above, from left: Victoria Lingua, Veronica Toun, Makayla Francis, Morgan Harris, Jozzlynn Lewis, Pat Pierce, Chair of the Board of Trustees, Kimberly Martinez, Reigna Parks, Kevin Banks.

research, and portfolio management, Pat knows a good investment when she sees it. Impressed by the leadership of President Leary, and the entrepreneurial spirit of the institution, she decided to make a planned gift.

“I believe my gift is 100 times more valuable to Bay Path than to other schools. I make this observation based on my career in the investment world. Today, there are many pressures on higher education. People may question their philanthropic efforts when there are so many uncertainties. But, in fact, as it is in business, now is the best time for people to step forward and commit. It actually increases their rate of return.”

In her position as Chair of the Board of Trustees, Pat knows first-hand that Bay Path is a place that meets students where they are in their lives, offers an education that is practical and relevant, and has a strong foundation. Those qualities are the elements of a strong institutional future—a solid investment with dividends that are immeasurable.

*Carpe Diem.*

---

If Bay Path is remembered in your legacy, please let us know so that we can acknowledge you. For information on how your planned giving can create a legacy at Bay Path University, contact Allison Gearing Kalill, vice president for development and planned giving, at 413.565.1150 or [agkalill@baypath.edu](mailto:agkalill@baypath.edu); or visit [baypath.giftlegacy.com](http://baypath.giftlegacy.com).



## From Longmeadow to Capitol Hill

### **Lori Venberg Roop '79**

Alumna Lori Roop is a powerful example of how a Bay Path education can take you anywhere, even places you might not expect. After graduating from Bay Path in 1979, a volunteer opportunity with Connecticut state senator Nancy Johnson's congressional campaign turned into full-time work in Washington, D.C. Eventually Lori became Director of Scheduling and Advance for labor secretary Elizabeth Dole, a role that would take Lori across the country and the world. For the past eight years, Lori has been Director of Special Events for the United States Holocaust Museum, where she oversees a staff of eight in the planning and execution of more than 200 events a year in Washington, D.C., and in cities across the country. Her secret to success? "I credit where I am to Bay Path: Bay Path was my launching pad for my career, giving me the skills, mindset, and tools to move forward." When Lori isn't working, you will likely find her volunteering at her church, or on campus for a meeting of the Bay Path Board of Trustees, which Lori joined in 2014. Lori and her husband, Jon, have also served as event chairs for the Bay Path University President's Gala, which gives Lori the opportunity to combine her professional expertise with her desire to support her alma mater.

*Go to [www.baypath.edu/baypathway](http://www.baypath.edu/baypathway) to learn more about Lori's incredible journey.*



## ENGAGEMENTS

**Amanda Rodriguez '08 G'14**  
and David Wendt

**Jennifer Miarecki '08**  
and Nick Lopata

**Kristen Whalen '09**  
and Jason Fisher

**Christine Hollingworth '10**  
and Joseph Anthony Clyburn

**Maura "Molly" Dower '11**  
and Mario Epstein

**Lianna Loveitt '12 MOT '13**  
and Jameson Fecteau

**Kristen Oliveira '17**  
and Will Contois

**Katharine Michele Holle G'18**  
and Noah Raymond Griffin

## WEDDINGS

**Cris Caruso '93** and Tina Goodwin  
were married on October 12, 2018

**Stephanie Crowell '08** and  
Stephen Rigazio were married  
in September 2015.

**Denia Henry '06 G'07** and David  
Kinch were married on July 14, 2018

**Lacy Ann Kaminski '07** and Neil  
O'Donnell were married on June 22,  
2018

**Meaghan Golden '12** and Brian  
Safford were married on October 7,  
2018

**Amanda Veilleux-Meara '12** and  
Gregory LeBeau were married on  
August 18, 2018

**Chelsea Stewart '13** and James  
Friske were married on July 14, 2018



Lacey Ann Kaminski '15  
and Neil O'Donnell

## ARRIVALS

**Emilie Pessagno Ferranti '01**,  
welcomed a boy, Wayne Jr Ferranti,  
on January 11, 2019.

**Jamie Zackery Boussicot '03**,  
welcomed a girl, Marley Jeannette,  
on July 16, 2018.

**Nicole Lessard Blinn '06**, welcomed  
a boy, Max, on October 19, 2018.

**Ashley Buck Hurley '06**, welcomed a  
boy, Thomas James, on May 25, 2018.

**Jennifer Corey LeFort '06**, welcomed  
a girl, Coralyn May LeFort, on April  
21, 2018.



Coralyn  
May  
LeFort

**Denise Larochelle Pumphrey '06**,  
welcomed a girl, Abigail Faith  
Pumphrey, on October 4, 2018.

**Jacquelynn Sousa Morales '07**,  
welcomed a girl, Joselynn Ruth  
Morales, on October 27, 2018.

**Amanda Rice Dufrairie Esq. '09**,  
welcomed a boy, Henry George  
Dufrairie, on April 12, 2018.

**Jessica Roncarati-Howe '09**,  
welcomed twin boys, Jack William  
and Quintin Douglas on February  
20, 2019.

**Amanda Galloway '11 G'14**,  
welcomed a girl, Hannah Gertrude  
Galloway, on March 28, 2019.

**Jessica Toner Wolanin '11** and  
Andrew David Wolanin welcomed  
twins, Jack Edward Wolanin and  
Emalyn Maureen Wolanin, on  
June 26, 2018.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Mary Low Rufenacht '39**  
April 6, 2019

**Irma "Pat" Wederstrom Jacobson '39**  
April 5, 2019

**Henry G. Boucher '41**  
July 14, 2018

**Shirley Rice Johnson '43**  
May 25, 2018

**Joanne Milton Connolly '48**  
February 25, 2018

**Lillian "Rosetta" McCarthy Welch '48**  
October 18, 2018

**Lillian Trejsner Garofalo '50**  
May, 6, 2018

**Dorothy Kaplan McCarty '50**  
June 6, 2018

**Joan Marshall Stewart '50**  
June 14, 2018

**Joan Goldberg Semel '53**  
March 3, 2018

**Carole Robinson Bassett '56**  
September 8, 2018

**Marilyn Burnham Brunner '59**  
February 18, 2019

**Natalie Burghoff Ives '59**  
April 26, 2018

**Claire Simar Barber '61**  
June 2, 2018

**Gwendolyn Fox Magovern '61**  
March 29, 2018

**Linda Grywalski Aresco '63**  
September 30, 2016

**Madeline Amirault Craft '63**  
March 20, 2018

**Andrea Jean Hodgdon Garneau '64**  
July 28, 2018

**Joanne Colangelo Anthony '75**  
May 31, 2018

**Carol A. Sargent Mistretta '77**  
March 30, 2019

**Beth Boileau Barthlow '89**  
May 29, 2018

**Brenna LaPort Spencer '89**  
June 28, 2018

**Allyson Marie Cleary '93**  
January 8, 2018

**Kimberly F. Richards '08**  
March 26, 2018

**NOTES** Class agents are listed below each class year. If no class agent is listed, please send your news to the Development Office at [bpalumni@baypath.edu](mailto:bpalumni@baypath.edu).

*Reunion years are indicated.*

## 1938

**Venessa O'Brien** *Class Agent*  
39 Robin Rd., Longmeadow, MA 01106  
413.567.1375 [obrienbutterfly1@gmail.com](mailto:obrienbutterfly1@gmail.com)

## 1951

**Marion Brooks Waleryszak** *Class Agent*  
96 Magnolia Ter., Springfield, MA 01108  
413.788.4424 [waleryszak@aol.com](mailto:waleryszak@aol.com)

## 1955

**Dorothy Masajada Hartland** *Class Agent*  
70 Cayenne St., West Springfield, MA 01089  
413.733.9205

**Gertrude Yazmer Brown** and her husband Louis live in Delray Beach and are presently enjoying their retirement in Florida saying "It is like camp for seniors". They have eight grandchildren, five have graduated from college.

## 1958

**Joan Aninger Hinterseer** *Class Agent*  
425 Main St., Unit 17D, Hudson, MA 01749  
978.562.2029

**Virginia (Ginny) Liucci Carlson** *Class Agent*  
7820 Fawn Brook Circle East  
Jacksonville, FL 32256  
904.641.1907 [pcorngin@comcast.net](mailto:pcorngin@comcast.net)

## 1962

**Ellie Gay** *Class Agent*  
56 Lynwood Dr., Chicopee, MA 01022-1105  
413.539.8109 [desde42@icloud.com](mailto:desde42@icloud.com)

## 1967

**Rosalie Capaccio Bialy** *Class Agent*  
P.O. Box 173, Andover, MA 01810-0003  
978.352.8807 [tommiesam@comcast.net](mailto:tommiesam@comcast.net)

## 1969 50th REUNION

**Carol Paddock Goodspeed** *Class Agent*  
P.O. Box 26, Wales, MA 01081  
413.245.3082 [gdstd@aol.com](mailto:gdstd@aol.com)

## 1971

**Paula Rowse Buonomo** *Class Agent*  
42 Colton Lane, Shrewsbury, MA 01545  
508.842.8680 [buonomo@aol.com](mailto:buonomo@aol.com)

## 1981

**Janice Miller** *Class Agent*  
43 Old Windsor Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002  
203.427.7759 [sxm1jan@gmail.com](mailto:sxm1jan@gmail.com)

## 1984 35th REUNION

**Susan Napoletano Diaz** moved to Lake Mary, FL, with husband, Angel, and daughter, Amanda. Susan started a new job working as an administrative assistant at Orlando Utilities Commission.

## 1988

**Heidi Trehwella Joseph** graduated from Quinnipiac University's Doctorate of Nursing program in nurse leadership in May, 2018, with honors.

## 1994 25th REUNION

**Loretta Hart Johnson** is in her 18th year as a special education paraprofessional for Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union in Brandon, VT. She has been a building representative there for many years, president, and social media coordinator. She was Vermont National Education Association's 2017 ESP of the Year and was recently elected to the Vermont NEA Board of Directors. Loretta has strong family beliefs and has been married for 24 years and has three children, ages 9-22. Her passion for students, education, and family drives her to try to improve education in her area.

## 1996

**Jessica Legaski Kennedy** is celebrating 10 years with EPOCH Senior Living in Boston as a corporate recruiter. Jessica's daughter Alexa is 11 and won a gold medal in U.S. Figure Skating this

year with her synchronized skating team out of Hayden Figure Skating Club in Lexington, MA. **Carolyn Fournier McCaffrey** was elected to be judge of probate in Enfield, CT. She is also an adjunct professor at Bay Path University.

## 2000

**Kelly Chapman Galanis '98 '00 G'01** is thrilled to announce that she has joined Springfield Technical Community College as the director of operations and donor relations. **Alison Pratt Rosenblat G'00** is now working at Albany Law School as the assistant director of admissions.

## 2002

**Clifford Hedges G'02** is the Eastern States Exposition's director of public safety.

## 2003

**Toni Jacobs G'06** is excited to share the release of her first book *Hello Trailblazer*. It's a 60 day devotional that incorporates some of her travel experiences.

## 2004 15th REUNION

**Christine Conley** was elected to the House of Representatives for the State of Connecticut. **Stefanie Gilbert Sanchez G'10** has been named the interim dean of the College of Graduate and Continuing Education at Westfield State University. She also received her doctorate in educational leadership with a concentration in student personnel services from the University of the Cumberlands.

## 2005

**Lacy Kaminski O'Donnell** was married to Neil O'Donnell on June 22, 2018. They have known each other since 2012. Lacy has also been able to move forward in her career as an early childhood educator thanks to the assistance of some ladies in the Bay Path Alumni Relations office. She has been employed with the Guild of St. Agnes since June 2017.





Stephanie Corwell Rigazio '08



Kristen Whalen '09



Katherine Lacey '11 (right)

## 2006

**Kelly Broderick** *Class Agent*  
522 Child Street, Warren, RI 02885  
kelbyanne@gmail.com

**Jayne Clark** has accepted a promotion to be regional lead advanced practitioner for the GoHealth Urgent Care centers in Connecticut. She is also an adjunct faculty member for a local college teaching anatomy and physiology. **Allison Clayton** is celebrating 10 years of employment at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, working for the Department of Infection Prevention & Control. She transferred to the hospital's highly-esteemed Analytics Department in November 2018. **Lauren Crotty Harris** passed the perinatal mental health certification exam, making her one of less than 100 people in the country to have this certification.

## 2007

**Jennifer Marie Brown Carty** is continuing her journey with Marriott as the director of HR operations at Boston Marriott Copley Place. **Lauren Chapple** recently graduated with a PhD in counseling psychology from the University of North Dakota and moved to Las Vegas, NV.

## 2008

**Courtney Connor** is excited to announce that she was accepted into Nova Southeastern University's PhD program in conflict analysis and resolution, with a concentration in global conflict. She'll attend this online program part-time beginning August 2019. **Ashley Mascroft** is director of promotions at iHeartMedia Country WSIX THE BIG 98 and Classic Country WSIX-HD2 THE BIG Legend 98.3/NASHVILLE. **Stephanie Crowell Rigazio** married Stephen Rigazio in September 2015. Their son was born on August 11, 2017.

## 2009

10th REUNION

**Karly Grimaldi G'13** was named to the new position of sales & operations planning manager with OMG, Inc.

She started with OMG in 2011 as a sales and marketing assistant for the roofing products division and most recently has been a S&OP analyst, where she helped design and launch the initial sales and operations planning tool. **Kristen Whalen** is engaged to Jason Fisher. She has moved to Cape Cod from western Massachusetts and joined the IKitchens Etc team as a designer. She will be working with homeowners and builders with existing and soon-to-be announced new cabinet lines. Kristen has an extensive background in kitchen design, and has won both the NKBA award for Top 30 Designers Under 30 years old and *Pro Remodeler's* 40 under 40.

## 2010

**Maria Furlow G'12** was named one of the 100 Women of Color Class of 2019 and was honored at the The 100 Women of Color Gala & Awards 2019 in Hartford, CT on April 5, 2019.

## 2011

**Kathrine Lacey** was named a managing partner at Westcott Law in Laconia, NH. She and her colleague, Allison Ambrose, are the first two female managing partners at the firm, which was established in 1927. Lacey joined Westcott Law as a legal intern in 2013. She quickly built a community foundation upon which she developed a successful law practice. She maintains a general practice, primarily focusing on family law, with a collaborative approach, as well as general litigation and criminal matters. **Racquela Richard** completed nursing school and graduated with her BSN from Rhode Island College. **Dara Sandau Esq.** has started her legal practice and wants Bay Path alumni to know that if they ever need help in the areas of business or bankruptcy law, or have a consumer protection issue, she would love to help. **Jessica Toner Wolanin** has accepted the position of director of children's ministries at First Church of Christ in Simsbury, CT.

## 2012

**Heather Boryszewski Lawrence** is a paralegal in CT and has been in her current position since 2012. Her son,

Brayden, was born in February 2015, the same year she and her husband bought their first home. They were married in September 2016. Two of her Bay Path classmates were at her wedding, and are still her best friends. **Gillian Palmer** moved on from Eastern States Exposition and has started a career at Bay Path as an assistant professor of management. Gillian is a current member of the Alumni Association Council. **Telesha Williams G'13** was promoted to business development manager at Gary Rome Auto Group.

## 2014

5th REUNION

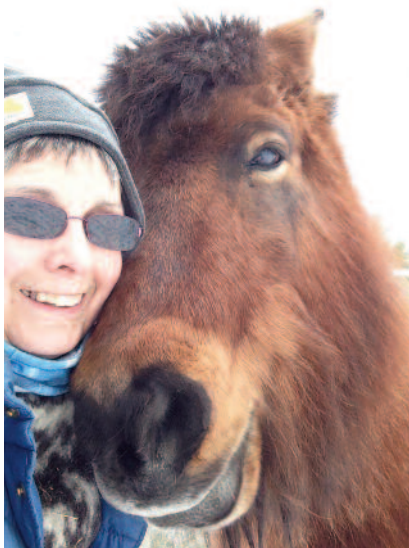
**Courtney Janisieski** has accepted a position teaching fifth grade at Indian Orchard Elementary. She cannot wait to be back in the fifth grade classroom.

## 2017

**Sofia Nardi** is proud to announce her new position as sales assistant in the traffic department of WVIT Channel 4 CT News!

## 2018

**Ysabel Garcia** graduated with a BA in psychology. She recently appeared in the November edition of *Psychology Today* discussing her experience with suicidal ideation and social media. **Christine Gillis** started a new job at Buffalo Seminary in Buffalo, NY. She will be doing a fellowship for the next academic year, and is excited for all the amazing opportunities this will bring her. She will get to work in residential life, among other things, in an all-girls high school. Christine is elated to be able to work with these incredible young women, and watch them grow over the next year! **Betty-Jo Sulewski O'Brien** is a military caregiver and a Fellow in the Elizabeth Dole Foundation. She returned from Washington, DC, where she met with members of Congress and attended the inaugural Heroes and History Makers gala. Betty was also awarded a full scholarship to pursue a master's degree at Colorado Technical University.



## Back in the Saddle

**Kara Noble G'18**

"I'm pursuing an author's life that combines my two favorite passions: writing and horses. My main gig is with *Quarterly: The Icelandic Horse* magazine. When I was in the MFA program at Bay Path, I wanted to practice the skills I was studying. I went to *Icelandic Horse* and they accepted a couple of my articles for the magazine. After I graduated, they asked if I wanted to join their editorial board. Of course, as a proud owner of two Icelandic horses, I said 'Yes!' Now, I'm a regular writer and columnist for the magazine. I can't tell you how exciting it is to see your work published."

*The story doesn't stop here! Go to [www.baypath.edu/baypathway](http://www.baypath.edu/baypathway) to learn how Kara is pursuing a writing life with her other projects, what makes the Icelandic horse one of the most unique equine breeds in the world, and how Kara participated in a dramatic Icelandic horse rescue.*

## Equal Rights for Women

**Carol Soutra Quinn '63**

"I've stayed connected to Bay Path all these years because I believe in Bay Path's mission and long-term commitment to women's education and programs offered to pursue higher degrees in a variety of courses, for employment opportunities for women. I have been, in my own way, an equal rights proponent for women. I've seen a lot of changes, but we still have a ways to go."

*The story doesn't stop here! Go to [www.baypath.edu/baypathway](http://www.baypath.edu/baypathway) to learn how Carol Quinn is using what she learned at Bay Path in her daily life.*



## Building Community

**Bethany Young G'18**

MS IN APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS  
DIRECTOR OF KEHILLAH, SPRINGFIELD JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

"One of my favorite programs is our Summer Camp. The program is eight weeks long and is fully inclusive, meaning children of all abilities can attend camp. For each new family, I do an intake with the parent and child. They often point out the things that their child cannot do and their hesitation shows. I encourage them to give camp a try, pointing out all of the supports that we have in place. Initially, some parents are skeptical. But through the camp experience, the child might make friends or learn a new skill. I watch the parents and observe their reactions when they see their children are doing more than what was expected. It becomes very emotional for the parents. It doesn't get old."

*The story doesn't stop here! Go to [www.baypath.edu/baypathway](http://www.baypath.edu/baypathway) to learn how Bethany, a 2018 recipient of the BusinessWest 40 Under 40 award, lives the mission of Kehillah (derived from the Hebrew word for community) by overseeing quality social and recreational enrichment programs for children, teens, and adults with social challenges, cognitive delays, and physical limitations.*



## She Stands with our Veterans

### Cristina Ruiz-Stephens '10

"After I graduated from Bay Path, I was in the army for seven years. It has been one of the greatest experiences in my life—I felt I was doing something very important for my country. While I was enlisted, I pursued a master's degree online in psychology with a concentration in military psychology from Adler University in Chicago, IL. I knew once I left the army I wanted to work with our veterans."

*The story doesn't stop here! Go to [www.baypath.edu/baypathway](http://www.baypath.edu/baypathway) to learn how Cristina Ruiz-Stephens is now earning her doctorate.*



## Saying Yes to "I Do"

### Rebecca Stebbins '99

"After Bay Path, I worked at the Bushnell Performing Arts Center in Special Events, helping to open its new theater. I then completed a year-long sales and marketing internship in Hawaii, after which I returned to my home state of Connecticut to work in special events at the Water's Edge Resort and Spa. I started working in corporate events, and I later took over all of the resort's weddings. Since 2006 I have worked at the Venetian Resort Las Vegas, where I started as a catering conference manager, running and assisting with events ranging in size from 30 to 15,000 people. I am now the Director of Celebrations, and oversee all weddings, bachelor/ette parties, and other gatherings at the hotel."

*What advice does Rebecca have for prospective newlyweds?  
Visit [www.baypath.edu/baypathway](http://www.baypath.edu/baypathway) to learn more.*

## The Best of Both Worlds

### Yasmine Murray '00

"After interning at a law firm during my time at Bay Path, Professor Ann Dobbmeyer encouraged me to try law firm work outside of an internship. I worked as a paralegal in New York and Georgia for several years, but I saw many lawyers who were unhappy, some who even tried to steer me away from the law. I ended up leaving the legal field altogether for a bit, and worked for Atlanta entrepreneur Felker J. Ward, Jr. I then got a call about a corporate paralegal position at my current employer, H.J. Russell & Company, and decided to try out the legal field again. I was still debating whether I should go to law school, but ultimately made the decision to do it because I didn't want to have any regrets down the line. My first job out of law school was a corporate law position at H.J. Russell, and I have been here ever since. In 2018, I was promoted to General Counsel, and I love having the opportunity to advance, have a seat at the table, and help make decisions that will shape the company and where it goes in the future. Every day is different, and I love the blend of business and law, two things I loved studying during my time at Bay Path."

*To learn more about Yasmine, visit [www.baypath.edu/baypathway](http://www.baypath.edu/baypathway).*



# The *Bay Pathway* Magazine

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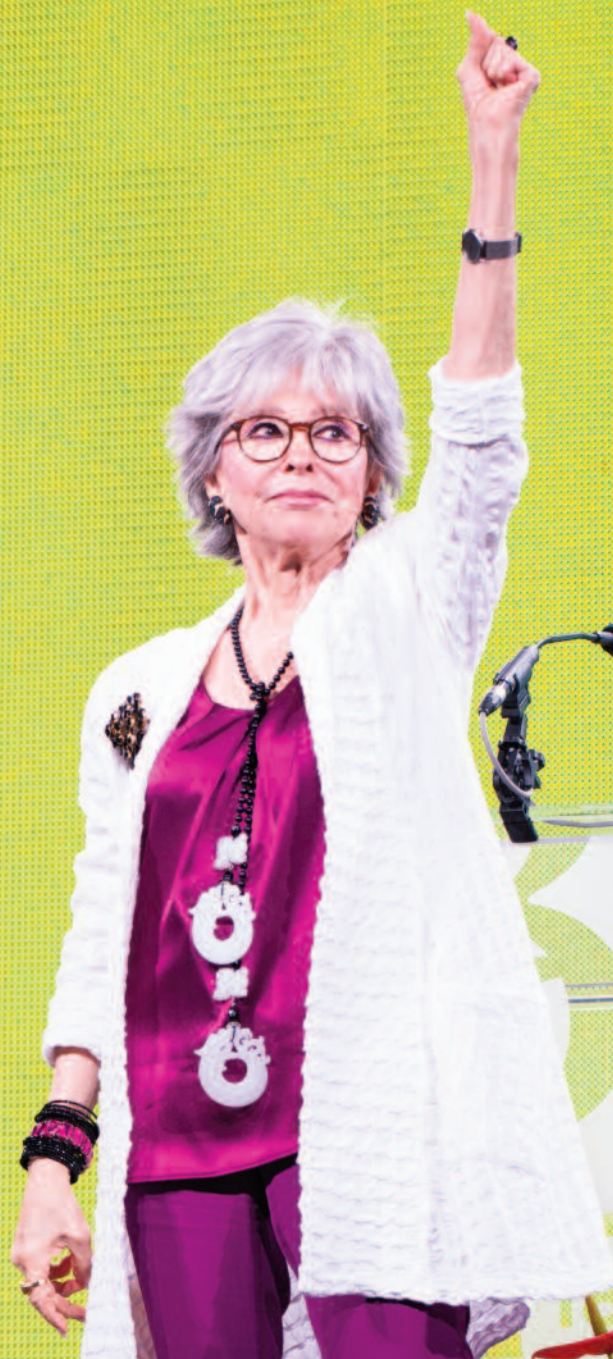
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# WHY NOT ME!



Rita Moreno, the keynote speaker for the 2019 Women's Leadership Conference, turned this year's theme of "Why Not Me?" into a declaration of affirmation: Why Not Me! The groundbreaking performer's own story of tenacity and perseverance resonated with the crowd of over 1700, bringing them to their feet for a standing ovation. In May 2019, Rita Moreno became the first Latina to receive the Peabody Career Achievement Award, making her a PEGOT, an ultra-exclusive group of people who have won a Peabody, Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony award. Only two other people have achieved the status: Barbra Streisand and film director Mike Nichols. Congratulations, Rita!





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Longmeadow, Massachusetts 01106

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**ONE DAY**  
to **TODAY**  
— 20 YEARS —



**Saturday**  
**October 26**  
**2019**

**Save the date** to join us as we reflect upon **20 years** of visionary education, inspiring stories and amazing women. **One Day to Today** is a celebration of alumni from the **One Day A Week Saturday Program & The American Women's College.**