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# Coloradan

Alumni Magazine **Summer 2021**

## LEADERS EMERGING

CU BOULDER ENTERS A REFORMED ERA OF LEADERSHIP.



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# NOW

MARCH 2021

The mass shooting at the Table Mesa King Soopers on March 22 left the Boulder community reeling. For local artist **Michael Grab** (Soc'07), his natural response was to create art.

For several days following the tragedy, 10 delicately balanced stone towers, one for each victim, stood quiet and tall in a slightly hidden spot in Boulder Creek, not far from Folsom Field.

Grab creates his temporary art installations with nothing but stones, balance and concentration.

"The true power of applying this art form in a memorial style like this exists very much in its transience," he said on Instagram. "The fact that nothing lasts holds a very distinct style of almost melancholic beauty."





**COVER** CU Boulder is poised to welcome a new generation of world leaders. Illustration by James Yang.

**ABOVE** In February, CU Boulder professor of art and art history George Rivera's "Stop Hate" billboard stood atop I-25 near downtown Denver and the Auraria Campus. "My artwork asks us to stop hate from growing and to examine the phenomenon of hate in our own hearts," Rivera told *CU Boulder Today*.

## 17 Is It Time to Rethink Leadership?

As CU Boulder creates initiatives to focus on leadership development, campus communities ask: What does leadership mean in today's world?

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Katie Kramer found her calling at the helm of a leadership-focused foundation.

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D. Eric Maikranz propelled his self-published book to the silver screen with guerilla marketing.

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The Colorado Lullaby Project is a heartwarming handshake between music and mental health research.

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On the eve of his retirement, sociology professor Michael Radelet says "yes."

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What the pandemic revealed about gender inequalities — and what needs to change.

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Matanya Horowitz uses artificial intelligence and robots to streamline recycling.

### EDITOR'S NOTE

The COVID-19 pandemic illuminated social inequities as the ubiquity of phones and digital media focused attention on interrelated issues including racial injustice, gender, voting rights, gun violence and access to health care and education.

These challenges gave rise to another topic that ancient philosophers, modern researchers and CU students have sought to better understand: leadership.

While there is an eagerness to return to "normal," new types of leaders are emerging to usher forth the future as it unfolds.

In this issue, we examine leadership research, education and practice through CU's Center for Leadership and explore one alumna's dedication to Colorado's future luminaries. I invite you to read these, plus stories about an unlikely book-turned-movie, robot-fueled sustainability and the power of lullabies.

The challenges of the past year will not resolve quickly, but Forever Buffs instill hope for a brighter future.

*Maria Kuntz*

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# The Music of Pandemics Past



Austin C.  
Okigbo

**Austin C. Okigbo**, associate professor in the College of Music and affiliate faculty in Ethnic Studies and Global Health, studies the intersection of music and public health. He traces the way people express themselves musically during times of widespread illness — a highly relevant topic given COVID-19. Here he discusses his research on past health crises and how music has played a role in the current pandemic.

**Your areas of interest are really diverse (music, African studies, global health). How do they intersect?**

Ethnomusicology is by definition a very interdisciplinary field. I study African music and, within those studies, my subject area is global health. I did my PhD research working with HIV/AIDS choirs based in South Africa. I seek to understand how people use music to articulate their experiences of disease in a global health context.

**Why study the music of pandemics?** When I was doing research in South Africa, I started

doing archival studies on past public health crises and epidemics in the area to give my research a broader historical context, like the 1713 outbreak of smallpox and the influenza of 1918. I began to identify where and what the musical responses were and compare them to what we were seeing with HIV/AIDS. The research just kept going.

**What themes did you see carrying through in your research of this music?** There is plenty of research about how music is used as an educational tool during public health crises — for example, promoting protective measures. However, my research

seeks to understand how people articulate their personal experiences of a disease. Music is a means by which people express what is on their minds... And what are people expressing? Feelings about economics, politics and religion.

**Do you see people making similar creative works and music today?** Absolutely. For two semesters during the coronavirus pandemic, I taught classes around disease and music. I asked students to use the current artistic responses they're seeing today to launch a broader conversation. It's been fascinating. Students have been

## PEOPLE ARE EXPRESSING THEIR FEELINGS ABOUT ECONOMICS, POLITICS AND RELIGION WITH MUSIC.

able to identify some of the political extremities that have characterized our nation's response to the pandemic.

**You found that social and cultural events surrounding pandemics fueled the responses and behaviors toward them. What would you say were the major events at play in 2020?** Disease epidemics reveal the fault lines already present in a society. The social and cultural difficulties that this country faces as a nation are real. The pandemic highlighted inequalities at the level of race, social class and economic class.

Diseases tell us who we are at an individual and a broader societal level. The disease is a sickness itself, but it does reveal other forms of sickness. It's social, political and economic maladies that we suffer from as well.

**Did your findings surprise you?** Initially, yes. I was juxtaposing historical epidemics that spanned over 300 years. And yet there was consistency—for

example, conspiracy theories about vaccines now echo those that followed the invention of the smallpox vaccine in the 1790s. New York and London experienced violent resistance to quarantine measures in 1918. You would think that culture has changed a lot or that people's mindsets would have changed a lot... but it didn't matter. The precedents in history are there; we often just aren't aware of it.

musician Fela Kuti. He was the inventor of Afrobeat music and was very political and radical in his thought. Even though he died in 1997, his music still feels like it's speaking to the present. The things he criticized in his music (like government corruption, wasteful spending and economic disparities) are relevant to how many countries are responding to the current pandemic, especially in Nigeria and Africa.

**What's next for your research?** I'm working on a book project now. It's a comparative study of African concepts of justice, which interestingly will include issues

## CONSPIRACY THEORIES ABOUT VACCINES NOW ECHO THOSE THAT FOLLOWED THE INVENTION OF THE SMALLPOX VACCINE IN THE 1790s.

**What about physical sickness leads us to express ourselves musically?** Music is an expressive form, and the arts are a part of how people bring out what they have on their minds and articulate their life experiences.

**Have you been listening to any favorite music over the course of the pandemic?** I have been listening to Nigerian

of justice in the context of epidemics. I'm also thinking about a book project that will look at music and the global history of pandemics. It will allow us to explore the ways humans have responded musically to global outbreaks of diseases across centuries, going back to the Renaissance and up to this moment. INTERVIEW BY KELSEY YANDURA. CONDENSED AND EDITED FOR CLARITY.



Members of the Siphithembu Choir, an HIV/AIDS choir studied by Okigbo, after a performance in late 2007.



## Dance Like Somebody Is Watching (Finally)

Nii Armah Sowah's dance class allows socially starved students to regain community.

**N**ii Armah Sowah dreaded teaching CU's "African Dance — Ghanaian" during the pandemic.

"The whole course is based on expression and connection," said Sowah, who's instructed African dance classes at CU for more than 20 years.

To cut aerosol transmissions, Sowah decreased the chanting that accompanies dances, restructured classes and cut the typically required extracurricular bonding.

But the losses in no way caused a loss of heart.

"COVID deprived so many students of human contact. When we started dancing, there was this sense of strong desire to connect... this longing has helped us build a good community in the classes," Sowah said.

When Sowah moved to the U.S. from Ghana in 1994, he soon realized that Americans identified him as "African" rather than Ghanaian. He recalls being thrust into a position of cultural ambassador for the entire continent — a role he does not take lightly. As a result, his course doesn't just cover the moves. It also explores the tenets of African cultures, creating global citizens by expanding students' cultural competencies.

"Africa has a lot of values, ideals and philosophies that are powerful and very meaningful in terms of supporting healthy life," said Sowah. He hopes to foster appreciation and respect for African cultures by highlighting these values.

And, according to students, the course offers even more. **Constance Harris** (MDance'21) shared, "Embedded in the steps that we dance and the songs that we sing are life lessons that are grounded in personal accountability, community building, selflessness, confidence building, decolonization and joy."

Rather than dwelling on class changes due to COVID — like the modified final celebration — Sowah views these sacrifices as another way to demonstrate the African spirit of resilience.

"Growing up in Ghana, I experienced periods of famine and drought. We learned to manage and made do under the circumstances," Sowah said. "We didn't insist on living our life as if the world was not happening. We adjust as needed." **BY GRACE DEARNLEY**



Students show off expressive movements during the African dance class final this spring.

## B Line to Boulder



In 2021, Colorado's RTD recommitted to a feasibility study of a Boulder-to-Denver railway.

Boulder was in its formative years in the late 1800s. Westward expansion drew in hopeful settlers. Industries were booming.

But the community lacked convenient transportation and shipping: It needed a train. In 1873, the city got two when the Colorado Central Railroad Company built Boulder's first working rail lines and the creation of the Denver and Boulder Valley Railroad connected the major cities. Soon Boulder celebrated its first luxury train — complete with lavatories — only for railroad travel to fall out of fashion when automobiles became popular in the early 1900s.

Over a century after riders traded tickets for car keys, residents yearn for a return to rail. In 2018, RTD reported that congestion caused 77 million hours of travel delay in the Metro Denver region. As urban sprawl between the cities becomes denser and

carbon emissions worsen with traffic, drivers covet a commute that omits the interstate.

When a 2004 Denver Metro area vote approved RTD's FasTracks proposal to build over 120 miles of passenger rail lines, excited residents looked forward to Colorado's commuter-friendly future. The proposed \$1.5 million B Line would connect Denver to Boulder and Longmont.

The plan didn't survive long. RTD took on significant debt with the Great Recession in 2008, which coincided with realizations that the B Line would cost millions more than projected. Without a means to raise the extra funds, RTD prioritized less-expensive lines, and Boulder County residents lost faith.

As car-less first-year students at CU in 2017, the year of FasTracks' original planned completion, my friends and I pined for a train to take us to Rockies games or

the Denver Art Museum. Instead, we spent four years on the Flatiron Flyer buses.

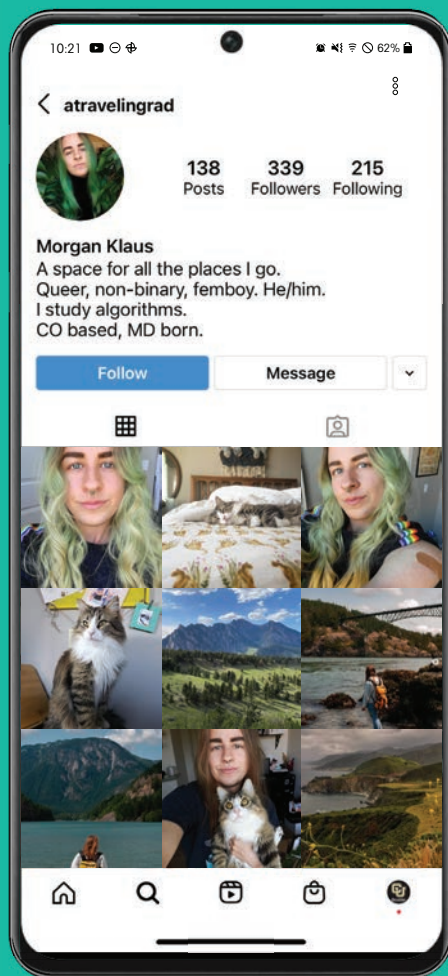
RTD recommitted to FasTracks in February 2021, ordering engineering and environmental studies for the B Line expansion. Officials are eyeing President Biden's recent infrastructure proposal in hopes of securing funding.

CU students will surely be some of the first to hop on board the train. Whether commuting to campus or venturing into neighboring cities, the B Line could lead to significant decreases in traffic and carbon output.

If RTD moves forward with the B Line, commuters and train enthusiasts alike may have reason to celebrate. I know I'll be grateful for it when I visit my alma mater. And thousands of Denver-Boulder commuters can finally skip the nightmare of rush hour on Highway 36.

**BY GRACE DEARNLEY**





A PhD student and Microsoft research fellow, **Morgan Klaus Scheuerman** (PhDInfoSci'21) has worked with companies like Facebook and Google to spot social issues within technology design. His work explores how social identities like race and gender are represented in algorithms and other technical infrastructures.

◀ **Model:**  
Samsung  
Galaxy S21  
Ultra with a card  
case and a cat-  
shaped keyring

#### APPS

Most-used  
apps

Gmail



Twitter



Slack



Most-used  
emoji



## Algorithmic Identities

**How soon after waking up do you look at your phone?** I use my phone as my alarm, but most of the time I look at it and then hit snooze immediately — at least five times!

**Duration of longest call last week?** Eighteen minutes with a journalist discussing AI ethics work.

**Where was the location of your last selfie?** At home, with my cat on my chest. I take a lot of selfies and a lot of cat photos. Anytime my cat graces me with his cuddles, I have to take a picture.

**The main thing you use your phone for?** Probably chatting on different apps. My phone is mostly a social connection tool for me. But I do doomscroll quite a bit, sadly.

**Lock screen or background image?** I am a nerd, so both my backgrounds are from nerdy media. My lock screen is a fanart of Thanatos from the video game Hades, and my home background is a fanart from Full Metal Alchemist.

**How many hours were you on your phone last week?** I don't even want to think about this!

## Climate Change Causes Mammal Range Shifts

**Warming temperatures are driving small mammals in the Rockies to higher elevations.**

**S**mall mountain mammals like marmots and ground squirrels are experiencing the effects of rapid climate change.

In a 13-year study published earlier this year, CU ecologist and associate professor Christy McCain found that small mammals in Colorado's Rocky Mountains are shifting their ranges to higher elevations in response to warming temperatures.

"For mammals and any living organism... a main determinant of where they live and flourish is climate," said McCain, who is also curator of vertebrates at the CU Museum of Natural History. "They are very much evolved to live in a particular set of climates that allow them to live and reproduce successfully."

During the past several decades, however, temperatures have been warming faster than many species can adapt. To stay within their niche climate, animals must follow the cooler temperatures up the

mountain — shrinking the available area of their range.

McCain and her team studied 47 mammal species from the Front Range and San Juan Rockies, including the golden-mantled ground squirrel, pygmy shrew, pine squirrel and Western jumping mouse.

By comparing field data with museum records, they found these species have moved uphill an average of 430 feet since the 1980s.



**A yellow-bellied marmot seeks cool refuge at higher altitudes, an indicator of rising global temperatures.**

Montane mammals — those already living at higher elevations, like the yellow-bellied marmot — experienced the most dramatic changes, moving their ranges up an average of 1,135 feet.

"Some of [these species] might not be charismatic to everybody, like the tiniest shrew... but they're indications of the wider biodiversity that's changing in Colorado's mountains," said McCain. "If we don't curb this change, our grandchildren might not see some of these species in the future."

Despite the daunting challenges of a changing climate, McCain stays positive by focusing on what she can contribute through her research.

"I see it both as a person... and as a scientist," she said. "There's a lot that we can study. We can delve deeper into each species' biology — and understand what might help them." **BY EMILY HENINGER**



## DIGITS

**Building Community at CU**  
The C4C (Center for Community) student services building celebrated its 10th anniversary this year.

# Ten

micro-restaurants offer cuisines, including Latin, Persian and Italian menus

# \$84.4

million construction budget

# 5,500+

meals served per day at the dining hall

# 12

student support offices, including Career Services and the Center for Multicultural Affairs

# 75%

of construction waste was recycled, diverting it from landfills

# 277

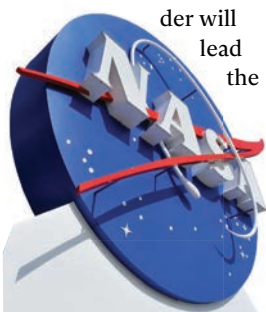
gifts and pledges were given to the building fund by alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends

## Rethinking Performance Art Culture

Inspired by the #MeToo movement, CU faculty members **Amanda Rose Villarreal** (PhDThtr'21) and Tamara Meneghini created the Colorado Theatre Standards, a set of guidelines to foster safety and respect for future generations of performance artists. Villarreal and Meneghini hope the detailed instructions for dealing with conflicts, handling violence and stage intimacy, reporting sexual harassment and more will inspire social justice change in the industry. Said Villarreal to *CU Boulder Today*: "When people know better, people can do better."

## CU Leads NASA Space Tech Research Institute

Over the next five years, researchers at CU Boulder will lead the



Advanced Computational Center for Entry System Simulation (ACCESS) institute with NASA. The multi-partner work, led by professor Iain Boyd of the Ann and H.J. Smead Department of Aerospace Engineering Sciences, will focus on thermal protection systems, which protect spacecraft from the aerodynamic heating they experience when entering the atmosphere.

## Spotlight on African and African American Studies

In May, CU Boulder announced the Center for African and African American Studies. Known as CAAAS (or "the Cause"), the center will support teaching, research and creative work on the history and culture of people of African descent. The center has been a goal for professor and center director Reiland Rabaka for over 15 years: "The establishment of CAAAS means Black students and faculty will be able to feel a greater sense of belonging at CU Boulder," Rabaka told *CU Boulder Today*.

## Heard Around Campus

**"THE BEST LEADERS...CAN EMPATHIZE WITH THOSE THEY STAND FOR. THEY CAN UNDERSTAND THE PAIN, THE RAGE, THE FEAR, THE COMPLEXITY."**

— Stacey Abrams, voting rights activist and bestselling author, in her address to graduates at the 2021 Colorado Law commencement ceremony.

## ARTIFACT CU Baseball

### The Material

Lightweight wool flannel.

### The Style

The jersey originally had long sleeves until they were cut short and hemmed by hand.



### The Year

This jersey is from 1893. The Hale Science Building, CU's eighth building, was nearly finished.



### The Player

The jersey belonged to star pitcher and team captain **Edwin John Ingram** (A&S1893; Law1895), who later became a Boulder County judge.

### The Sport

CU baseball was a 90-year tradition, running 1890 to 1980. The final game was May 6, 1980.



## Bufs at Bat

In April 1893, **Edwin John Ingram** (A&S1893; Law1895) stepped onto the field for CU's third varsity baseball season. The team donned new uniforms, funded by a musical concert with the university banjo and glee clubs. Ingram, captain of the team and famed for his tricky curveball pitch, led the "varsity nine" in an undefeated season. The final game was a nail-biter against the University of Denver — the wind was fierce, and the team was down three of their regular players. Then, the wind stopped and the team got down to business, scoring five runs in the sixth inning and pulling through to win the pennant.

### The Gift

The jersey was donated by **C. F. Alan Cass** (A&S ex'63; HonDocHum'99), Ingram's grandnephew and the founder and curator of the Glenn Miller Archives.





## Pups of CU

Though Ralphie holds a special place in the hearts of so many Forever Buffs, most would list their loyal pup when it comes to choosing a favorite furry friend. Until Folsom Field is once again filled with a roaring crowd decked out in CU gear, canine Buffs are showing off their school spirit to keep alumni and fans inspired. If only CU could enter a team in the Puppy Bowl!



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## The Tale of Buckingham Library

**A**s Leo Tolstoy prepared to publish *Anna Karenina* and Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women* sequels circulated, a group of CU bookworms were dreaming up the university's first library.

Within the first few months of class on CU's campus in the fall of 1877 (when it was just a prep school), several students formed the University Literary Society. Members included the group's president **James McFarland** (A&S1882), Emma Reed, Fred Smith and **John Mellette** (A&S1882).

Society meetings were marked by witty satire and consisted of debates, essays, orations and recitations. The group discussed everything from the virtues of selfishness to their berry-picking experiences in the mountains.

They also began making plans for a society library. Eager to raise funds, they put on a series of "entertainments" — lectures, a concert, a play titled *Neighbor Jackwood* (managed by Mary Rippon) and a debate concerning "Woman or Money: Which has the greater influence over man?" Tickets ranged between 50 cents and \$2.

During this fundraising phase, local banker and bibliophile Charles Buckingham donated \$2,000 for the purchase of books. President

Sewall announced the name "Buckingham Library" at the concert on Dec. 7, 1877.

The library opened its doors in 1878, and students took advantage of the 1,500 tomes during the fall semester.

The furniture, drapery and decor were selected by society members. Natural light illuminated the books. Three walnut writing tables were offset by a comfortable easy chair.

In June 1878, the *Boulder County News* said, "There may be costlier libraries in the State, but none other with such an indispensable selection of new books, and a place so pleasant in its furnishings and surroundings."

Over the next several years, the library traveled around Old Main. It expanded into multiple rooms on the second floor, then moved to the third floor. As the collection grew and the sheer amount of books became too heavy, it was moved to the ground level. Finally, on Jan. 4, 1904, the library moved to its own building (now the University Theatre) on the Norlin quadrangle. By this time, it boasted 30,000 volumes.

Now, over 100 years later, the five libraries across the CU Boulder campus represent the largest library collection in the Rocky Mountain region, exceeding 10 million books, periodicals, audiovisual materials, maps, microforms and more. **BY KELSEY YANDURA**

A few ambitious students formed the university's first library.



AS CU BOULDER CREATES INITIATIVES TO

# IS IT TIME TO

FOCUS ON LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT,

# RETHINK

CAMPUS COMMUNITIES ASK: WHAT DOES

# LEADERSHIP?

LEADERSHIP MEAN IN TODAY'S WORLD?

BY BARBARA BROOKS

For **Brian Muriithi** (AeroEngr'22), leadership is about building community, bridging cultures and collaborating. While his ideas are largely informed by his Kenyan heritage and personal experience, Muriithi has found confirmation in the books he's reading as a student in the Engineering Leadership Program (ENLP).

Take *Speaker of the Dead*, by Orson Scott Card, which he read for his "Intelligent Leadership" class this spring: "There's an ongoing, tense war between cultures that don't understand each other," he said. "It was the job of a few characters to find the common ground and get people to work together instead of eliminating each other. The book was really about the importance of empathy and understanding."

Muriithi is one of five recipients of the 2020–21 Newton Endowed Chair in Leadership Student Leaders of the Year Award, from CU Boulder's Center for Leadership. In 2021, he was one of 3,000 undergraduate students on campus who are focused on improving their leadership skills through new CU Boulder opportunities.

## A NEW ERA OF LEADERSHIP AT CU

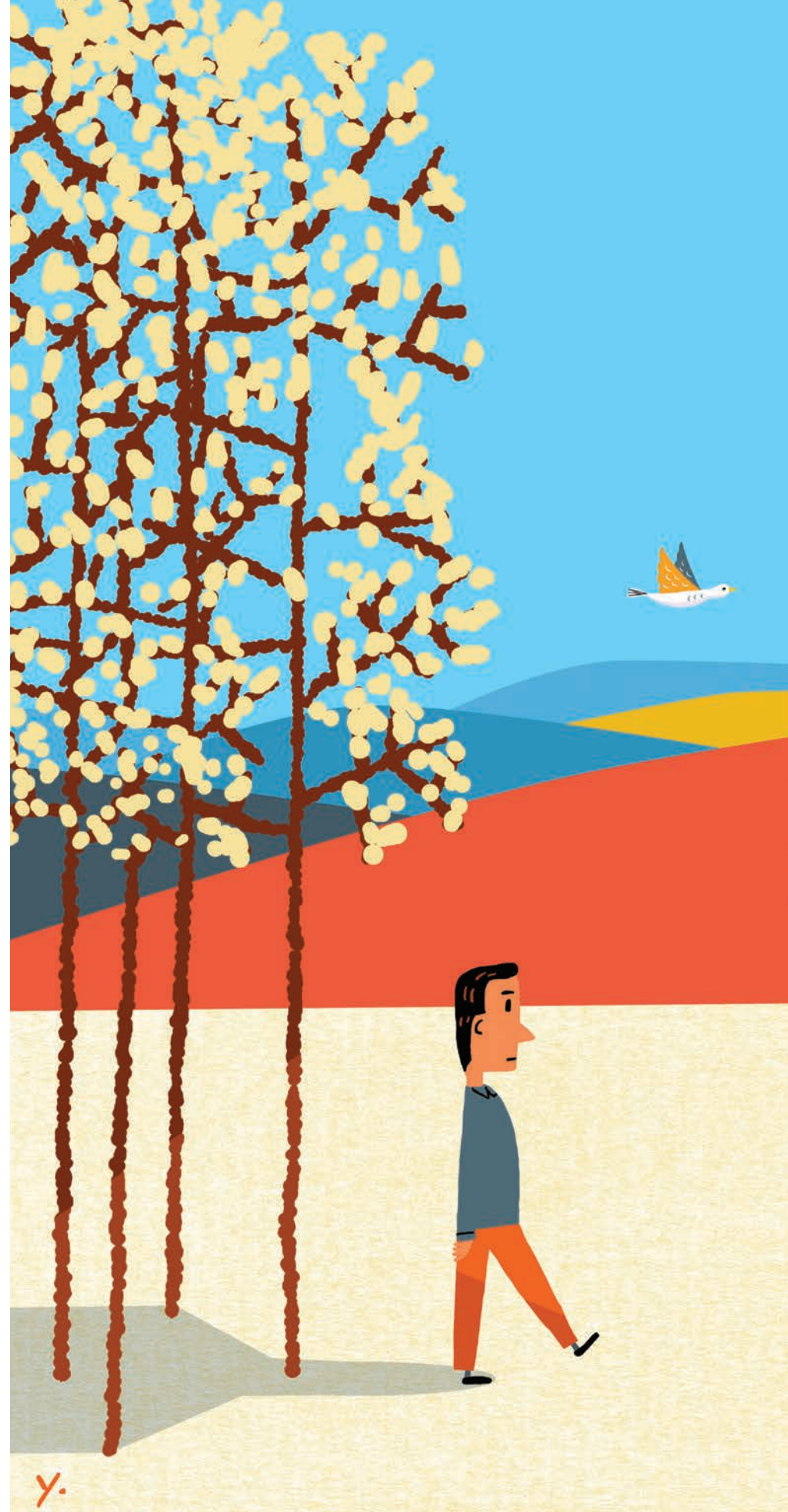
As part of the university's Flagship 2030 vision to better address 21st-century humanitarian, social and

technological challenges, CU introduced a Center for Leadership last year. The center is a top priority for Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano, who holds the Newton Endowed Chair in Leadership, and will distinguish CU's approach from other universities.

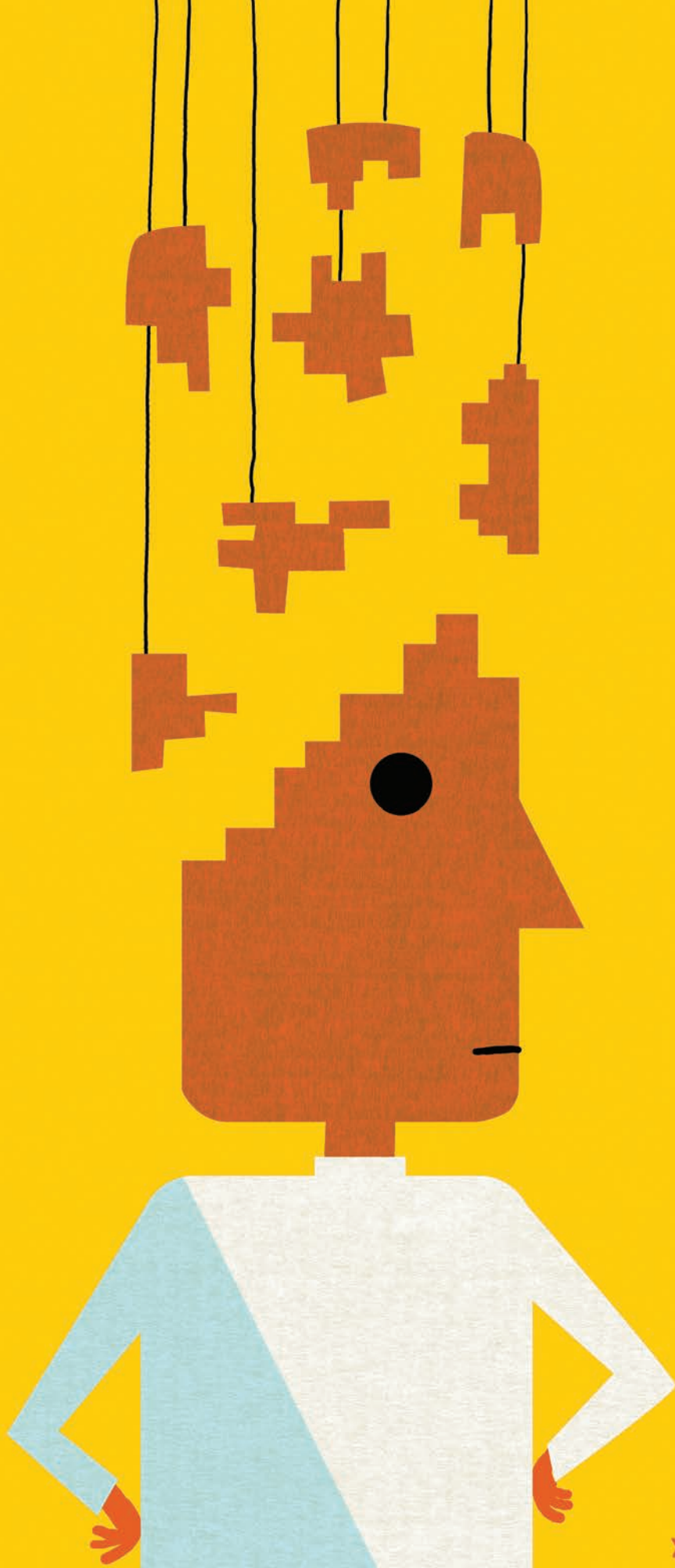
"Just as there is no one way to lead, there is no single approach to developing the leaders of tomorrow," said Aaron Roof, executive director of the center. "We are a hub that will connect more students to the multidisciplinary leadership education they need, while also amplifying CU's cutting-edge research in the field of leadership development."

The Engineering Leadership Program Muriithi is involved with is one of 27 initiatives for the center. CU's Shilo Brooks, a staunch supporter of the liberal arts with a discipline in political theory, was tapped in 2018 to help prepare future leaders to grapple with the impacts of advances in biomedical engineering, energy, social media and other rapidly evolving fields.

"My view is that leadership education is, in essence, liberal education," he said, "and that the kinds of challenges leaders face require a certain intellectual agility that can only come by way of a broad and deep curiosity and a vigorous mind that wants to encounter and engage all aspects of the world."







Along with **Angela Thieman Dino** (MANth'95; PhD'07), an anthropologist and senior instructor in the program, Brooks focused the four-course curriculum on exploring leadership through philosophy, history, psychology, politics, literature and anthropology.

Students read biographies — of the Wright brothers, Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King Jr., for example — and listen to podcast interviews as a way to understand human “passions and longings and hopes and fears,” which Brooks said is critical to leading teams and also doing well by society.

“We teach leadership as a philosophy, which is where art and science meet: a reasonable, rational knowledge of the world, combined with a humane sensitivity to guide us to wisdom,” said Brooks, faculty director for the ENLP program. “Some of the qualities that a good leader must possess — empathy; character; an appreciation for diversity; a sense for the right, the just and the good — are not purely numerical, measurable or scientific in character.”

While the ENLP curriculum emphasizes character formation, Brooks appreciates the diversity of approaches to leadership on campus.

“The Center for Leadership brings together all the programs, all the diverse interests, all the manifold ways of doing things,” he said. “So, we all talk to each other and learn from each other.”

#### **NEW METRICS FOR LEADERSHIP**

For Stefanie K. Johnson, associate professor in CU's Leeds School of Business, the art and science of leadership have become one and the same.

“People study how leaders build empathy, and we can measure empathy,” she said. “So, if you consider science to be what I do — which is using the empirical scientific method to test hypotheses — then it's all science.”

Specifically, Johnson studies the intersection of leadership and diversity. Her bestselling book, *Inclusify: The Power of*

*Uniqueness and Belonging to Build Innovative Teams*, was published last year, and in addition to teaching students, she has spoken across the U.S. as a consultant, including in the White House.

What matters most to Johnson is that leaders keep learning.

“If you were a great leader in 1980 and you're doing the same thing today, then you're not a great leader anymore,” she said. “But if we can define certain competencies, then we can train people to be better at them. That makes leadership more accessible.”

At Leeds, Johnson said they are focusing on building leaders who have moral, ethical character, not just people who can make money.

“For a long time, we thought first you had to get your technical skills down — accounting, finance, marketing — and if you had extra time, you could focus on the more social skills like empathy and inclusivity. Now it's the opposite. Our students want an education that aligns with their values and prepares them for a workplace that supports the triple bottom line of people, planet and profits.”

In that way, she believes CU Boulder is getting it right.

“Of course, we have to act on our values and make certain changes,” she said. “But our Center for Leadership shows how progressive we are compared to other institutions.”

#### **LEARNING THE ART OF LEADERSHIP**

Peter Huang, professor and DeMuth Chair at Colorado Law, studies happiness in law and business. Among other courses, he teaches Law and Leadership, which focuses on what he calls “the art of leadership” — and includes skills such as mindfulness, emotional intelligence, self-discipline, grit and subjective well-being.

“These skills are teachable and extremely important,” Huang said. “If you can lead yourself, then you can lead others and lead change. If you're distracted, you're not fully present to hear what your client, or the jury or opposing counsel is saying.”

**"IF YOU WERE  
A GREAT  
LEADER  
IN 1980 AND  
YOU'RE DOING  
THE SAME THING  
TODAY, THEN  
YOU'RE NOT A  
GREAT LEADER  
ANYMORE."**



Huang is pleased that other Colorado Law professors are also teaching empathy and compassion, though the profession at large is embracing the concepts relatively late.

“Doctors realized the importance of bedside manner,” he said. “Managers understood the importance of being adaptive when a plan isn’t working. But law is by its nature precedent bound. Lawyers want consistency over time, and they’re also risk-averse.”

Huang is convinced that improving their leadership skills will help CU graduates stand out in the job market.

**Allie Reuter** (IntPhys, Neuro’21) agrees. As a pre-med student and a member of the Presidents Leadership Class, she is graduating with a leadership minor. She serves on the Senior Class Council and conducts undergraduate research on mental wellness with engineering students.

After a friend died by suicide, Reuter started CU’s chapter of Active Minds, the national organization that promotes mental health for young adults. Like Muriithi, she was one of the top five student leaders for 2020–21.

Reuter believes her leadership training and experience at CU will help her stand out when she competes for jobs and medical school admission.

“Everyone who applies will have a great resume and be decently smart,” she said. “But what ends up differentiating people is whether they can have conver-

sations and help others feel comfortable. I’ve met some really impressive doctors in the field, and the thing I’ve taken away is how compassionate they are and how comfortable others are in their presence. To me, that’s really an art.”

### LEADING THE WAY TO CHANGE

Whether leadership is considered an art or a science, everyone agrees that the future requires leaders who have more than technical skills for their field.

Brooks says they’ll need the intellectual grounding to grapple with fundamental human problems. So, he wants all leadership students to “think through the great question Aristotle first asked: ‘What is good for man?’”

But there’s more, said Muriithi, who plans to continue fostering the growth of future leaders within the Kenyan community in Colorado. He believes leaders will need to see the world as a diverse community whose problems cannot be solved alone.

“In the Kenyan community, one of our big mottos is, ‘It takes a village to raise a child.’ That influenced me a lot growing up,” he said. “Leadership is about how you live your life and carry yourself on a daily basis.”

“Our generation is more progressive, and we’re change-makers,” he said. “When we look to the past, we see that the top-down method hasn’t worked, so we want to do things a different way — to make our future and the future for our children better.”

## CU CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP

**The Center for Leadership unites 27 leadership programs across campus to support programming and research.**

**The Presidents Leadership Class is a four-year, comprehensive leadership development program focusing on academics, experience, service and community to expose students to leadership lessons on many levels.**

**The Scripps Leadership and Career Development Program provides student-athletes with resources and opportunities to explore and pursue their passion while prepar-**

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**The Boulder-CU Leadership Program provides opportunities for current CU undergrads to partner with professionals in the Boulder community for mentoring experiences. Visit [colorado.edu/lead](https://colorado.edu/lead) to learn more.**





# COLORADO BORN,

KATIE KRAMER FOUND HER CALLING AT THE

# LEADERSHIP

HELM OF A LEADERSHIP-FOCUSED FOUNDATION

# RAISED

BY KENNA BRUNER

Deep family roots anchor fourth-generation Coloradan **Katie Kramer** (Mgmt'97; MBA'09) to the state she loves. Moreover, she has found a place for her professional life in an organization that has a long history in the state: the Boettcher Foundation.

The Boettcher Foundation is a philanthropic organization whose mission is to invest in the promise of Colorado and the potential of Coloradans. It seeks to build a connected, inclusive and accessible leadership ecosystem that serves all of Colorado while propelling the state forward.

The foundation is named after Charles Boettcher, a German immigrant who arrived in Colorado in 1869 to pursue business ventures. The women in his family were a crucial part of guiding the family fortune toward philanthropy in 1937. Among them, Edna Boettcher and Mae Boettcher were trustees, and **Claudia Boettcher**

**Merthan** (Mus'91) served the foundation for 21 years including as board chair from 1992 to 2007.

Kramer is following their lead. Her career trajectory toward serving the foundation began in 1993 when she was

named a Boettcher Scholar — awarded to 50 Colorado students a year — and enrolled at CU Boulder. In the nearly three decades since, she has held multiple titles at the 84-year-old foundation, including vice president when she was just 26. Today, she serves as the youngest president and first female CEO in the organization's history.

As the head of a leadership-focused foundation, the standards are high. And Kramer has brought her A-game from the beginning, said Sharon

Linhart, chair of the Boettcher Foundation Board of Trustees and founder of Linhart Public Relations.

"Katie has it all — intellectual curiosity, sensitivity and compassion, sensibility and an intense desire to make a positive impact," she said. "She embodies the Boettcher Foundation's mission to champion excellence across Colorado."

Reflecting on the evolution of her career, Kramer describes her role as that of a connector who cares deeply about the quality of life for Coloradans. When asked what fulfills her professionally, she said: "To work in a place where I feel like I'm being of service to my community and to be in a place where I'm always learning."

Kramer, who has spent more than 20 years focused on leadership development, believes effective leaders should be defined by the role they play in a community, not their title or position. And since she started as CEO in 2017, over \$18 million has been distributed through scholarships to deserving Colorado students seeking to be future leaders.

"Our communities thrive when individuals from all sectors, industries, generations and geographies have access to leadership opportunities and support," she said.

Kramer added that she doesn't believe leaders are born.

"There are multiple characteristics of leadership that can be learned, developed or enhanced," she said. "I'm a believer that anyone can be a leader and that it most often starts with the choice to care about the success and dreams of others."

A self-described "leadership nerd," Kramer's interest in leading people

began long before she was named a Boettcher Scholar.

"In high school, I was student body president and attended leadership camps," she said. "I read a lot of leadership books. And I love working with other leaders to make good things happen and find ways to serve our community. So, it's been in the cards for me all along."

The receipt of the Boettcher Scholarship and her tenure at CU Boulder, where she was a member of the Presidents Leadership Class, built upon these interests. Her undergraduate years served as a training ground to learn how to work with people from different backgrounds, perspectives and lived experiences.

"It's important to understand different

viewpoints and develop the skills and willingness to engage in civil discourse," said Kramer, who lives in Arvada, Colorado, with her husband and two sons. "You must get out of your echo chamber. Can you have a growth mindset and be curious if you're always convinced you're right?"

Kramer's insatiable desire to learn, grow and share has been a driving force behind her success.

"I wanted to orient my career around being of service to my community," she said. "And the mission of Boettcher is in complete alignment with my personal passions, so I am grateful for the opportunity to do what I love and make a difference in this place I care so deeply about."

**LEADERS  
SHOULD BE  
DEFINED BY THE  
ROLE THEY PLAY  
IN A COMMUNITY,  
NOT THEIR TITLE  
OR POSITION.**





# LIFE, REINCARNATED

D. ERIC MAIKRANZ PROPELLED HIS SELF-PUBLISHED BOOK TO THE SILVER SCREEN WITH GUERRILLA MARKETING. BY HELEN OLSSON

In 2010, Rafi Crohn picked up a paperback called *The Reincarnationist Papers* in a hostel in Nepal. On the first page, author **D. Eric Maikranz** (Russ'91) offered a cash reward to any reader who could help get the book made into a Hollywood movie.

As an assistant to a movie producer, Crohn was instantly intrigued by both the proposal and the book's puzzle-box plot.

Part sci-fi thriller, part mystery and part historical fiction, the novel follows a shadowy society called the Cognomina made up of reincarnated individuals with total recall of their past lives. "They're very cosmopolitan and educated people who've led very enriched lives," Maikranz said. "Some characters go back 10 or 20 lives."

How the self-published paperback found its way to Nepal remains a mystery. At the time, there were only a thousand copies in circulation. "I had no idea if it would work," said Maikranz. "It's even more mind-blowing that Rafi found it halfway around the world."

The idea sprung from Maikranz's work as a programmer at Oracle, which often uses collaboration and customer input to improve its products. "Essentially, I crowdsourced my readers to become my agents," he said.

And — it worked. Crohn and Maikranz paired up on a quest for a movie deal.

For the next nine years, Crohn championed the book in what would be a rollercoaster ride of emotions. They'd get a nibble from a production company one month, an option here, a producer interested there. Right when it seemed like a done deal, the project would get shelved. Finally, in 2017, it sold to Paramount. The film, titled *Infinite*, stars Mark Wahlberg and Chiwetel Ejiofor and was released on Paramount+ in June.

In 2019, Maikranz traveled to an abandoned Victorian mansion-turned-movie-set in England to see the filming of *Infinite* and to meet Wahlberg between takes. "I was absolutely terrified. I speak in front of thousands of people for work; I

don't really rattle. But I couldn't even hold a cup of tea," said Maikranz. "Wahlberg said to me, 'Eric, I hope to make you proud of my portrayal of your character.' I was floating like a butterfly."

Maikranz gained inspiration for this unique adventure through a combination of travel, historical study and personal experience.

After graduating from CU, Maikranz moved to Italy to serve as a foreign correspondent. On the side, he gave tours of the Coliseum and the Forum, bringing the past to life through historical characters. "Every generation has its Kardashians and Clintons," he said. "That was killer training for storytelling on the page."

Maikranz also found inspiration for the novel through his own curiosity about reincarnation. "I have three memories that don't belong to me," he said. "The oldest one is from around 1880. I'm a little boy holding a man's hand as we watch huge black steam locomotives pull up to the tracks."

Does he believe in reincarnation? "I don't have a strong metaphysical stance on it. I don't necessarily believe in it, but I don't not believe in it."

Maikranz also credits his time at the university. "In a way, I'm equipped to write this novel because the 22-year-old version of me went to CU and studied the Russian giants." He is inspired by the idea that even in our current existence, we're different people at different parts of our lives.

With the release of *Infinite*, Maikranz plans to take a six- to 12-month leave of absence from Oracle to focus on writing—and to take time for dropping in on Zoom book clubs. The second book in the series, *The Cognomina Chronicles*, is in the works. "After 30 years, I'm finally getting to use my degree in literature to the fullest," he said.

 [ERICMAIKRANZ.COM](http://ERICMAIKRANZ.COM)

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LITTLE VIKING LADY ROWING  
DOWN THE RIVER DEEP,  
TAKE A LOOK AROUND YOU TO WHERE  
THE CREATURES SLEEP. LOOK  
LOW LOOK HIGH TO the EARTH and THE SKY  
THE SUN IS SHINING YELLOW and BRIGHT,  
IT WANTS TO HEAR YOU SING  
ALL NIGHT. DANCE  
DANCE SMOOTH AND SWEET  
STOMP STOMP STOMP  
YOUR FEET.  
CLAP CLAP Let's  
hear you sing  
my little WILD THING.



Sing Me to Sleep,  
Sing Me to Wake

The Colorado Lullaby Project is a  
heartwarming handshake between music  
and mental health research.

BY KELSEY YANDURA



WHEN SUSAN ORNITZ first heard her custom lullaby (illustrated on the previous pages), created by students at CU's College of Music, she was floored. Her 7-month-old daughter Zoe loved it, too.

"She was so excited. She just started squealing. It was like she knew it was written for her," said Ornitz.

In December 2020, Ornitz agreed to participate in CU's Colorado Lullaby Project, a program pairing student musicians with new parents to create a custom song for their little ones. Over the course of several collaboration sessions, mother and musicians used details about Zoe — her nickname, favorite stuffed animal and emerging personality — to craft a very personal song.

Months later, though Zoe has grown, the song (titled "Little Wild Thing") is still special for the mother-daughter duo.

"We still love to sing it together on our stroller walks," Ornitz said. "I didn't think of it as something that was going to be so memorable, but it's such a special thing to us now."

## The Birth of the Project

The project began in New York City in 2011. As a part of Carnegie Hall's community engagement programs at Jacobi Hospital in the Bronx, composer and teaching artist Tom Cabaniss was working with HIV/AIDS patients in the pediatric unit when he heard murmurs about teen moms in the OB-GYN unit having a difficult time connecting with their newborns.

"I wondered what would happen if we could help these mothers create their own lullabies for their children," said Cabaniss. "What kind of bond would that forge?"

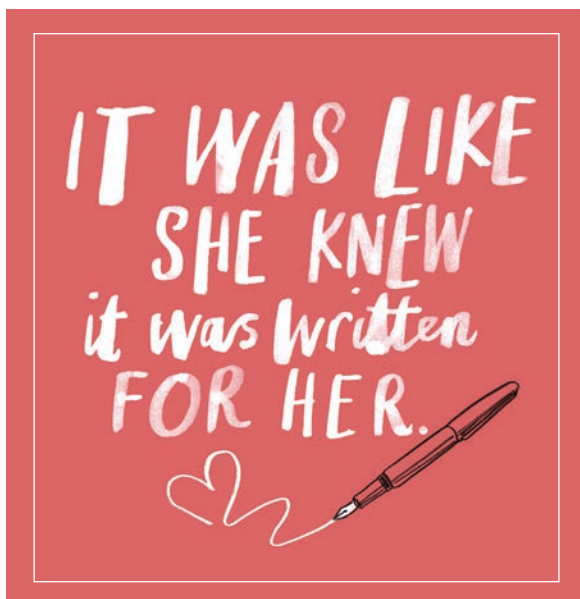
Ten years later, Carnegie Hall's Lullaby Project has a network of partners — including CU Boulder — across the globe. From Slovakia to Alaska, each iteration is unique. Some partners work with mothers in birthing centers, others in correctional facilities.

"The diversity of lullabies themselves can be so wide, and the expressions of the project can be equally wide," said Cabaniss. In 2017, he had been toying

with the idea of finding a research partner when CU's Reneé Crown Wellness Institute and the College of Music's Entrepreneurship Center for Music called, asking about the project. He was thrilled.

Together, they formed the Colorado Lullaby Project. The pilot program kicked off in 2020 under the direction of **Grace Law** (MMus'21), a graduate assistant with the Entrepreneurship Center for Music, with the help of **Anne Fritzson** (MPsych'20; PhD'24), a graduate student in clinical psychology.

Under the project's model, student musicians help parents write the music,



while the Crown Institute studies the effects of lullabies on the parents' mental health, wellness and social connections.

## Mother and Musician

Lullaby creation takes place over several sessions with the child's mother, father or guardian and involves the creation of musical motifs, lyrics and melody.

Ornitz knew she wanted an Americana vibe in her song — an acoustic, roots-style tune that felt rustic and homey. From there, they began weaving relevant details into the lyrics. Though she doesn't identify as a "creative person," the team made the songwriting process accessible through various creative exercises.

For example, the team often asks parents to write a letter to their child. The personal nature of the letter helps give the artists insight into the parents' world and shapes the lullaby's message.

In Zoe's "Little Wild Thing," the "Viking girl" symbolizes a phase where she made little growling sounds. "My husband called them her 'Viking noises,'" said Ornitz.

The song goes on to reference various animals, a nod to Ornitz's occupation as a veterinarian and her daughter's beloved stuffed animal collection.

The term "lullaby" is used broadly for the songs. "It doesn't always have to be very calm and soothing. Some parents end up writing something upbeat to get their kids focused. It's flexible, and they don't have to fit in some certain box," said Law.

at birthing centers, everyone tuned in via Zoom, sometimes with team members logging in across the country.

"We had to think about how to imitate an in-person musical experience through the internet, still have it be engaging and still have people feel like it was a really gratifying experience," said Law.

CU was the first national or international partner to implement the project digitally. Some parents even expressed a preference for the virtual model.

"It's much more equitable in a way that parents don't have to travel, and they don't have to find child care. They can do it from the comfort of their own home, and they feel really comfortable," said Law.

## Findings and Future

Nearly all caregivers who completed the program reported a positive experience with the Lullaby Project at CU.

Researchers from the Crown Institute found families showed improvements in social connections and decreased loneliness. The lullabies also improved symptoms of depression and anxiety. Many parents reported the lullaby had a positive impact on their relationships with children, partner or family.

"Throughout the pandemic, there's been a collective sense of hopelessness," said Law. "This gave parents something to be excited about and to look forward to. Many felt like they were strengthening the relationships with their families and their kids."

"Especially with COVID and the challenges of being a new mother, the project made me feel special," said Ornitz.

The Colorado Lullaby Project has served over 60 families to date. Law plans to make this program available every fall and spring and have continuous enrollment for both students and parents or guardians to be engaged in the project.

"This is going to be a long-standing program for us," said Law. "Our plans are to really hone in how we're doing it here and be able to spread it to other universities to reach more families."



This was true for Ornitz. "We kind of decided we wanted it to be a wake-up, happy type song," she said.

"It's an equal collaboration, but we really try to empower the parent to create something that reflects what they want," said Law.

Ultimately, the project is rooted in empathy — creating a lullaby with a parent is a practice of deep listening.

## Pivoting During a Pandemic

The university's pilot season of the Lullaby Project was scheduled to kick off during the 2020 spring semester — until COVID-19 hit.

"We were slated to have all of our sessions in person," said Law. "Once the pandemic happened, our team was still determined to make it work."

They quickly reworked the model. Instead of meeting with mothers in person



# 'The End of the DEATH PENALTY?

On the eve of his retirement, sociology professor Michael Radelet says “yes.”

By Lisa Marshall

It was 1 a.m. July 13, 1984, when Michael Radelet made the decision to publicly denounce the death penalty. He'd just said goodbye to David Washington, a convicted triple-murderer who died in the electric chair six hours later. As he accompanied Washington's wife and daughters out of the Florida State Prison's death row, their pleas echoed.

“They just kept crying, ‘Please don’t kill my Daddy,’” recalls Radelet, a CU Boulder sociology professor. “That’s when I first came to realize that in many ways, the death penalty punishes the family and society as much as the inmate.”

Radelet's research, dating to the 1970s, was among the first to show innocent people sometimes get executed and that race plays a key role in determining who lands on death row. Through 50 “last visits” with inmates (including infamous serial killer Ted Bundy) in the hours before their execution, he has also illuminated life inside death row and the toll capital punishment leaves behind.

Twelve years before Washington's execution, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that death penalty statutes as written in most states failed to provide clear standards on who got the death penalty and what constituted “cruel and unusual punishment” and were, thus, unconstitutional.

“A number of people thought we would never see another execution again in the United States,” recalls Radelet, a CU faculty member since 2001.

But soon, states began to recraft their statutes to try to meet the court's objections, and the death penalty was revived.

According to a data set Radelet has compiled, executioners have put 1,532 people to death since in the U.S., including 17 in 2020 alone — 10 under the direction of the federal government. Today there are 2,500 people on America's death rows.

At least 185 wrongly convicted people have been exonerated after being sentenced to death. And, according to his own research originally published in 1987, at least 23 innocent people were executed in the U.S. between 1905 and 1974.

Then, there is the race issue.

Since 1981, when Radelet first showed that those accused of murdering white victims are more likely to be sentenced to death than those who murder Black victims, study after study has confirmed this finding. In one, Radelet found that cases with a white female victim were 10 times more likely to result in a death sentence than similar homicides with a male victim of color.

Thanks in part to Radelet's 100 research papers and dozens of testimonies, lawmakers have begun to turn against the death penalty. This includes Colorado, which in 2020 became the 22nd state to abolish the death penalty.

His work has not gone unnoticed. The nation's largest anti-death penalty organization recently honored Radelet for a lifetime of research examining the true societal costs of capital punishment.

Radelet tuned in virtually, accepting the Death Penalty Focus Abolition Award with a statement that seemed impossible for so many years: “We are in a position to believe that many of us will see total abolition of the death penalty in our lifetimes,” he said.

In all, 10 U.S. states abolished the death penalty in the 2000s, and 142 countries have banned the practice. In 2019, California — home to the country's largest death row — put a moratorium on capital punishment. And many believe President Joe Biden will, at minimum, commute existing federal death sentences to life.

Radelet, who retires from teaching this year, has played no small role in driving that progress.

Seated in his office, clutching a hand-written goodbye letter Bundy wrote to him before he went to the electric chair, Radelet likens his last visits to hospice work. In their final hours, he says, even a convicted murderer deserves the grace of a listening ear.

Some have accused him of sympathizing with criminals. He disagrees.

“You don’t oppose the death penalty because these guys are all great citizens. You oppose it because of what it does to society.”





# An Olympic CU Legacy

Boulder has long been a mecca for outdoor adventure, and CU's strong historic presence at the Olympic Games proves it. Since 1948, the university has produced over 90 Olympic athletes who have competed in events across the globe. In honor of the upcoming Tokyo Games, here's a look at CU's storied history of Olympians.

Over 90 CU Boulder Forever Buffs have attended the Olympics. Among universities and colleges with the most Olympians, CU ranks

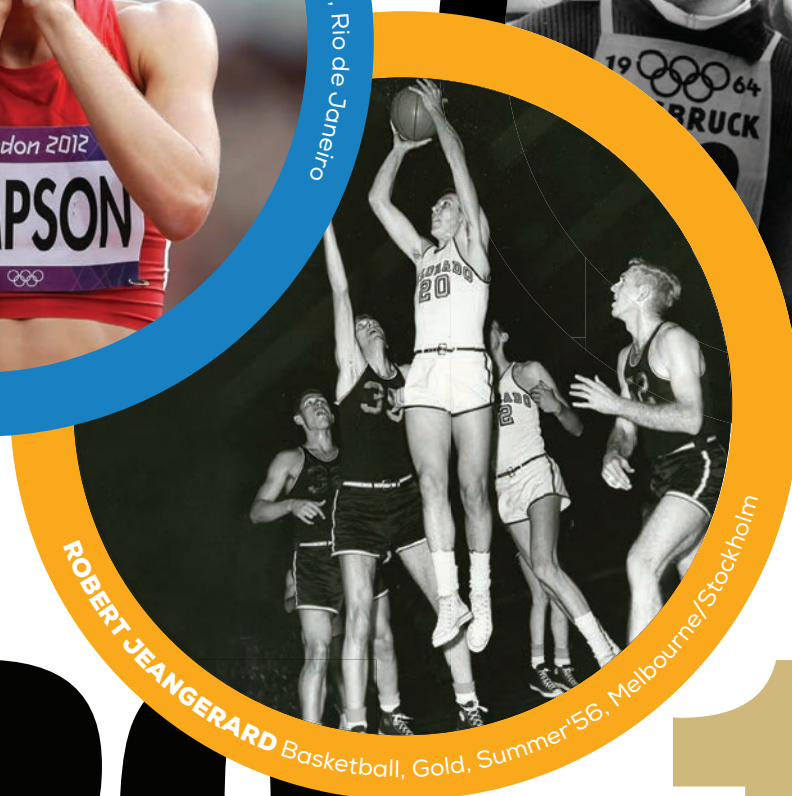
CU had the most Summer Olympians in its history in 2000 (8) and the most Winter Olympians in 1972 (13).



Jenny Simpson looks shocked after qualifying for the 1,500-meter Olympic semifinals in 2012.



CU Boulder's first Olympian: David Bolen



# 201st

medals have been won by CU Olympians in total (9 Gold, 4 Silver, 7 Bronze)

CU has more affiliated Olympic cyclists (13) and alpine skiers (29) than any other university and ranks second in shooting sports (7) and third in judo (6).

## OLYMPIC HOPEFULS FOR 2021

**Maddie Alm**  
**Madie Boreman**  
**Emma Coburn**  
**Valerie Constein**  
**Eduardo Herrera**  
**Sage Hurta**  
**Dani Jones**

**Joe Klecker**  
**Makenna Morley**  
**Morgan Pearson**  
**Jenny Simpson**  
**Laura Thweatt**  
**Carrie Verdon**  
*(as of press time)*

Olympic coaches have been affiliated with CU.



# The Session

What the pandemic revealed about gender inequalities — and what needs to change. **By Lisa Marshall** **Illustration by Harriet Lee-Merrion**





IN MID-MARCH 2020, Rachel Rinaldo found herself in the same position as roughly 20 million other working mothers in the United States: suddenly stuck without child care, or thrust into the role of homeschool teacher, and trying to figure out how to get her work done.

"It was an impossible choice. You could either do your job well or parent well," said Rinaldo, CU Boulder associate professor of sociology and mother of 7-year-old Nathaniel. "At times, I felt like I was failing at both."

When she scrolled through social media, she noticed it was blowing up with similar sentiments from other women scrambling to adjust to pandemic-related school and daycare shutdowns. Some, like her, were fortunate to have a partner who took on a full share of child care and a job that could be done at home. However, many had no choice but to cut their hours or leave the workforce.

Curious to know more about how the pandemic was impacting working parents, and how couples were dividing up their tasks, Rinaldo launched a study surveying nearly 300 people nationally and interviewing dozens in her own community at length. She found a common theme.

"Even in a relatively progressive area like the Denver-Boulder area, women were taking on the brunt of the remote schooling and extra child care and were more likely to have reduced their work hours or have been furloughed," she said.

Rinaldo's findings echo those of studies around the country which show that women, particularly those with children, have been hardest hit by the recession sparked by COVID-19.

In the first weeks of the pandemic, an astounding 3.5 million mothers with school-aged children either took a leave, lost their job or left the job market entirely, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Even a year later, women's participation in the labor force was at its lowest level since 1988.

Some fear that the "Shecession," as it is being called, could have lasting impacts on everything from homeownership and wealth accumulation for women to the kinds of people who end up in boardrooms and the scientific discoveries that are made in years to come.

But it also brought a silver lining.

"It has galvanized a lot of needed discussions," said Rinaldo, who specializes

in gender studies. "There are conversations happening now about what it takes to support working parents that I have never seen in my lifetime."

### The Back-Up Parent Trap

Even before the pandemic, Rinaldo's research found the division of labor in many households was unequal.

"Women in many cases were already the default or back-up parent," she said. "They arranged the play dates, did the majority of the housework and when

"There are conversations happening now about working parents that I have never seen in my lifetime."

someone got sick, they were the ones to stay home from work."

Previous studies also have shown that heterosexual women tend to view their jobs as more flexible than their husband's: when two-earner couples move for a job change, for instance, it's usually his.

"When both people are working and they cannot afford child care, if somebody is going to quit, it's going to be the person with the lower paying job — and in heterosexual couples, that's usually the woman," said Rinaldo.

Meanwhile, centuries-old cultural stereotypes persist, with many people, even subconsciously, still associating women with child care and nurturing.

"When hard times hit, people tend to fall back on those traditional gender roles," she said.

Throw a pandemic on top of all this, and inequities have been supersized.

One recent study, published in the journal *Feminist Frontiers*, found that even when both parents were able to telecommute from home during the pandemic, mothers with young children reduced their work hours four to five times more than fathers did.

As of May, while vaccines rolled out widely and the economy started to rebound, mothers' representation in the labor force was still down 4% but working fathers' representation was nearly back to pre-pandemic levels. Black and Latino moms were even harder hit, accounting for about half of the total decrease in the female labor force, even though they represent less than one-third of it, according to the Pew Research Center.

And in academia, where today's publications drive tomorrow's tenure, women — who already published less than men and took more of a career hit when they became a mom, according to CU Boulder research — saw this publishing gap exacerbated.

"Science works better if we have diverse communities contributing to scientific knowledge," said **Allison Morgan** (PhDCompSci'21), who recently published a study on women in academic publishing. "These trends suggest that we might not be hearing some of those voices. That's concerning."

### Change Is Coming

In all, Rinaldo and study co-author **Ian Whalen** (PhDSoc'23) found that the majority of women interviewed expressed that their 2020 experience was filled with anxiety, stress and exasperation.

"They felt the pandemic was taking a toll on both their careers and their marriages," Rinaldo said.

Some who took pandemic leave to care for kids worried it would stall their career progression. Others complained that while the kids wouldn't dare interrupt their father during a Zoom call, they often freely walked in on mom's work calls.

"I am just so tired and so worn down, and I have just burnt the candle — broken it into a thousand pieces," explained one interviewee. "There's just not a lot of me left."

But in about one-quarter of cases, Rinaldo found, the division of labor at home was more equitable.

In these cases, a few common themes emerged: The working mother was more likely to be the breadwinner or have a job their partner viewed as more demanding than his; the husband was unemployed; the husband's workplace was sympathetic of his child care needs; or there was a strong and deliberate commitment

between the couple to create gender equity at home.

LGBTQ couples, she found, were also more likely to have equitable divisions of labor and tended to have ongoing conversations about who does what around the household.

"When you don't have these obvious gender differences between partners, you have to talk about these issues more explicitly," she said.

Rinaldo did not include single parents in the study, as one of her objectives was to examine how work was divided up between couples during the pandemic. But she points to research that shows single moms have taken an even greater emotional and financial toll.

The pandemic, Rinaldo said, has been its own kind of natural disaster, similarly leaving wreckage in its wake while also prompting frank talk about how to be more resilient when the next crisis comes around. In April 2021, President Joe Biden announced a proposal for an American Families Plan, which would provide free preschool for all 3- and 4-year-old children, subsidize child care and create a national paid family and medical leave program.

More private companies have also begun offering on-site child care and

"Change is coming. People are demanding it. I'm optimistic."

gender-neutral paid leave — enabling fathers to take a greater role in parenting.

More cultural and structural change is needed, said Morgan, noting that 40% of academic institutions in the country still have no paid family leave. Since 2018, CU Boulder has a gender-neutral policy, allowing both mothers and fathers six weeks of paid parental leave after the birth of a child.

"Younger generations have become much more aware of these issues of gender equality, and the pandemic has shone an even brighter light on them," said Rinaldo. "Change is coming. People are demanding it. I'm optimistic."







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-Dick and Jean Engebretson

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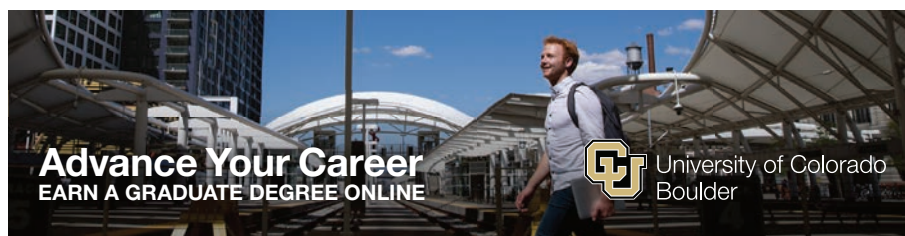


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## Welcome Home, Buffs

Forever Buffs can mark their calendars for virtual and in-person Homecoming 2021 events.

**W**herever they roam, Buffs can be part of CU's Homecoming 2021 festivities — including in person in Boulder.

This year's Homecoming tradition includes virtual activities for Buffs across the globe and several on-site events for those who come to campus.

"We're trying to create an experience that all members of the Forever Buffs community can enjoy," said Brennan Jones, Alumni Association associate director for events and outreach. "It's important that we create Homecoming events that are flexible and accessible for all this year."

Kicking off Nov. 1 and running through Nov. 7, virtual events include a virtual 5K race, a career panel for the Class of 2021 and a virtual "Dinner and a Movie" event featuring *The Light Shines On*, a short documentary celebrating CU's history, pride and traditions.

For those returning to Boulder for the Nov. 4–7 weekend, anticipation is building for in-person events such as the annual Alumni Awards ceremony, Spirit Days on the Quad, Buffs on Tap, the 50-Year Reunion

for the class of 1971 and the Ralphie's Corral tailgate.

For Athletic Director Rick George, the school spirit that comes with in-person attendance is invaluable to the football season.

"The energy that [Homecoming] brings is crucial to our team, our campus and our community," he said. "It's going to be great for our alumni around the country, maybe even the world, to come back to Boulder and see what we're doing."

For extra-involved Forever Buffs like **D.B. Wilson** (Hist, Mktg'75) and his wife, Cindy, this year's Homecoming will be a welcome reunion with friends. The couple is known for hosting a packed house at their Boulder home before walking down The Hill toward campus amid

laughter and cheers. "There's such a wonderful energy that comes from everybody gathering together," said Wilson. "Being on campus is always a treat. There's nothing like CU." Visit [colorado.edu/homecoming](http://colorado.edu/homecoming) for more details.



Come back to Boulder this November for Homecoming festivities on campus or watch them virtually.



## Alumni Association's Carolyn Paul Retires

After 23 years of service, Carolyn Paul retired from the CU Boulder Alumni Association.

"For many alumni, visitors and campus staff, Carolyn was the face and voice of the Alumni Association," said Ron Stump, former Alumni Association director.

During her tenure, Paul was involved in student scholarships, Homecoming weekends, commencements, football tailgates, weddings and more.

"Carolyn was always — and I mean always — ready with a smile and a warm greeting," said **Clark Oldroyd** (MEdu'75), who worked alongside Paul at the Alumni Association for more than two decades. "Her infectious greeting made you smile, too."

An animal and nature lover, Paul hopes to hike, watch operas and spend time in Santa Fe in retirement. She lives in Boulder.

"Carolyn had a way of developing fast friendships with the many people who called and visited the Alumni Association," said **Ryan Chreist** (Kines'96; MPubAd'09), assistant vice chancellor and Alumni Association executive director. "The impact she has made on our community will be felt for many years."

### JOIN THE FOREVER BUFFS NETWORK

Become a part of the Forever Buffs Network, a free online community for CU alumni. The network contains job postings, mentor and mentee positions, a business directory featuring alumni-owned businesses and opportunities to reconnect with former classmates. Visit [foreverbuffsnetwork.com](http://foreverbuffsnetwork.com) to sign up.



virtual event. In May, another group of about 100 addressed climate change. Next, on Sept. 8, the series will feature leadership in today's world. Learn more at [colorado.edu/coloradan/conversations](http://colorado.edu/coloradan/conversations).

### FOOTBALL TAILGATES RETURNING



This fall, Buffs football tailgates are back. Ralphie's Corral — The Official CU Tailgate — will begin three hours prior to each home game. Held on Duane Field, the tailgates will feature performances by the Golden Buffalo Marching Band and CU Spirit and more. Buffs Bashes will occur before each away game, packed with Buffs pride and giveaways. Visit [colorado.edu/alumni](http://colorado.edu/alumni) for details.

### COLORADAN CONVERSATIONS: FROM DISCUSSION TO ACTION



After the mailing of each magazine, a *Coloradan* Conversations event brings together Forever Buffs and experts to talk about relevant topics from the issue. In February, about 100 alumni and CU thought leaders discussed anti-racism during the free,

## 2022 TRIPS



**Expedition to Antarctica**  
Jan. 11–24, 2022



**Costa Rica's Natural Heritage**  
Jan. 24–Feb. 3, 2022



**Journey to Southern Africa**  
Jan. 25–Feb. 9, 2022



**New Zealand – Land of the Long White Cloud**  
Feb. 5–20, 2022



**United Arab Emirates**  
March 11–20, 2022

For more information about the Roaming Buffs travel program, email [roamingbuffstravel@colorado.edu](mailto:roamingbuffstravel@colorado.edu), call 303-492-8484 or visit [www.colorado.edu/alumni/roamingbuffs](http://www.colorado.edu/alumni/roamingbuffs).





## A Dream Home, with Energy

**S**ince 2017, a team of 30 CU Boulder students and faculty has worked to build an all-electric house in one of the coldest towns in the lower 48 states: Fraser, Colorado. They completed the 1,176-square-foot project in April.

The world took notice.

In April 2021, they won first place in the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon Build Challenge, an international competition challenging participants to design and build a functional house that creatively solves real issues within the building industry. In addition to the first-place win, CU took first in three of the 10 judged events — innovation, market potential and architecture.

As high living costs in mountain towns deter potential residents, team leaders **Gabi Abello** (Engr'20) and **Hannah Blake**

(Engr'20) wanted to tackle energy efficiency and affordability in mountain homes.

With heat pumps, solar panels and an attached rental unit to supplement income, the SPARC house (Sustainability, Performance, Attainability, Resilience and Community) functions at net-positive energy efficiency, even selling solar energy back to the local power grid.

The team is perhaps most proud that the house is now a home to residents Kristen Taddonio and Joe Smyth. "It's just awesome to be able to wake up in the morning and look out and see mountains and to be here," Taddonio told *CU Boulder Today*. "It's just a dream come true."

The SPARC house is an award-winning, fully electric house, built by CU students and faculty.





## Leadership for Our Times



**Philip P.  
DiStefano**

Several years ago, CU Boulder students started an ad campaign that grew into the Colorado Creed, a social responsibility code for the campus community.

It reminds us to act with honor, integrity and respect. It compels us to be responsible for our actions, take accountability for our decisions and accept our differences.

The students' vision remains today, evidence of the lasting impact of thoughtful leadership.

The subject of leadership has been paramount recently. From COVID-19 to social justice and racism, the lack of recent leadership in the corporate sector, government, political system, nonprofits and, yes, education, will be felt for generations.

In the face of these events, I have been thinking more than ever about leadership and what it takes to become and maintain being a good leader. Our collective mission is to positively impact humanity, so the stakes are high.

But how do we build leaders in today's world? Author Simon Sinek once said, "There are only two ways to influence human behavior: You can manipulate

it or you can inspire it." Our mission at the university is to cultivate leadership through inspiration.

That's why we have researched and identified the traits of successful leaders across a variety of fields and developed an innovative curriculum to foster leaders for a changing world.

CU Boulder's Center for Leadership, established last year, combines 25 leadership programs from across the campus, including our athletics department, schools, colleges and graduate and undergraduate studies.

By aligning our programs to harness expertise from throughout CU, we're cultivating moral character and social duty and advancing innovative research on leadership. The vast majority of higher-education leadership offerings reside in business schools, but at CU Boulder we believe that leadership education must be ubiquitous.

Every societal challenge we face and every industry that can address these challenges requires the right leaders for the right moment. Universities can answer the call. **PHILIP P. DISTEFANO IS THE 11TH CHANCELLOR OF CU BOULDER. HE IS THE QUIGG AND VIRGINIA S. NEWTON ENDOWED CHAIR IN LEADERSHIP, OVERSEEING CU BOULDER'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS.**



# FOOTBALL

## TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

## HOME SCHEDULE

**Sept. 3**

VS.



**Sept. 11\***

AT EMPOWER FIELD IN DENVER

VS.



**Sept. 18**

VS.



**Oct. 2**

VS.



**Oct. 16**

FAMILY WEEKEND

VS.



**Nov. 6**

HOME COMING

VS.



**Nov. 20**

VS.



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\*Season Tickets do not include the Texas A&M game in Denver





By **Andrew Daigle** (PhDEngl'16)



## Skier of the Year

When Magnus Boee was named National Men's Nordic Skier of the Year in April, it was anything but unexpected. Boee won 10 of 12 races in 2021, including sweeping the regional and NCAA Nordic championships.

**A** dual citizen of Korea and Norway, **Magnus Boee** (CivEngr'23) eclipsed an incredible freshman season (highlighted by three wins and 10 top-10 finishes) with one of CU's most dominant men's Nordic ski seasons.

Boee was nearly unbeatable in 2021, winning 10 of 12 races. In the only two races he didn't win, he finished third and fourth. By March, he was the top seed in classic and freestyle disciplines at NCAAs, winning both events.

"I've improved a lot this year with technique and freestyle, plus my overall shape, endurance and aerobic capacity have gotten better," Boee said.

Prior to CU, Boee skied for Korea at the 2018 PyeongChang Olympics when he was just 19 years old. In July 2011, Boee settled in Norway and began skiing competitively — the same month PyeongChang was announced as the 2018 Winter Games host.

Despite his newness to Nordic, he and his mom thought, "Why don't we aim for those Olympics?" Boee's "hunger to get there" got him to PyeongChang. Two years later, he was winning races for CU.

When not skiing, Boee cross-trains by running, swimming and cycling. He credits his success to staying in Boulder last summer and training uninterrupted at altitude.

Even despite a major pre-season bike accident, which left him with a titanium plate to repair his broken jaw, Boee was undeterred. His attitude inspires teammates and coaches alike.

"He pushes everybody on the team to become better. He leads by example; the quality of the workout is most important, not quantity," said Jana Weinberger, Colorado's Nordic head coach.

Boee hopes to bring home a 2022 NCAA team championship: "Beating [host and rival] Utah on their home ground. That would be the ultimate." **INTERVIEW BY ANDREW DAIGLE. CONDENSED AND EDITED.**

This year, sophomore Buffs skier Magnus Boee won 10 of his 12 races.

## Baker Named Associate Athletic Director

DaWon Baker began work as Colorado's first associate athletic director for diversity, equity and inclusion in May 2021. A past participant in CU's Inclusive Sports Summit, Baker is charged with aligning CU Athletics with ongoing inclusivity efforts. Athletic Director Rick George said Baker will be "present at our practices, games and in our facilities" as an accessible and welcoming leader.

A St. Louis native, Baker believes the 2014 shooting of Michael Brown in nearby Ferguson was a turning point in his career.

"I saw how the tragic event of Michael's death affected the world and my own campus," he said. "For the first time, I saw that there was a strategy to creating inclusive cultures, and that drove me to learn about diversity and inclusion in sport."

## Buff's Bits

Two-time Olympian and long-distance runner **Kara Goucher** (Psych'01) was named to the NBC Olympics broadcasting team in May for the U.S. Track and Field Olympic Trials and the Olympic Games in Tokyo.

Skiing's **Cassidy Gray** (IntPhys'24) won the 2021 individual NCAA Championship in the women's giant slalom. Gray was joined on the podium by **Stef Fleckenstein** (Comm'22), who finished second at March's championships in New Hampshire.

**Mya Hollingshed** (Comm'22) was selected honorable mention All-America by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association April 3. Hollingshed will return for a fifth season in 2021-22.

Buff's soccer (9-6-2) reached the NCAA Tournament for the second straight season before being eliminated 1-0 by South Alabama in an April 27 first-round match.

Despite a career-high six goals from **Sadie Grozier** (Mktg'21), CU lacrosse (8-7) lost to No. 13 Stanford 17-10 in the Pac-12 Tournament championship game May 8.

Skier **Magnus Boee** (CivEngr'23), football's **Jerek Broussard** (Ethn'23) and basketball's **McKinley Wright IV** (Ethn'21) tied for male athlete of the year, while track and field's **Sage Hurta** (ChemBioEngr'21) unanimously won female athlete of the year at the 21st annual CU Sports Performers of the Year (CUSPY) Awards in May.

## STATS

# 1<sup>st</sup>

Time a goalkeeper won lacrosse Pac-12 Defensive Player of the Year when **Julia Lisella** (SLHSci'21) took home the award May 5.

# 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Singles positions played and won during the 2021 season by tennis' **Maria Campos** (IntIAf'23), the first Buff to win at every singles position in one season.

# Third

Men's golf overall finish at April's Wyoming Cowboy Classic, the team's best performance of the season.

# 3:38.09

**Eduardo Herrera's** (Soc'21) time when he broke the school record in the 1,500-meter run at the April 30 West Coast Relays in Fresno, CA.

# 9/3

Football opens the 2021 season against Northern Colorado at Folsom Field.

# 197<sup>th</sup>

Overall pick used by the New England Patriots to select Buffs offensive tackle **William Sherman** (Comm'21) in the 2021 NFL Draft.

## Coach Talk

**"I CAN'T WAIT TO GET MY HANDS DIRTY AND TO RAISE THE LEVEL OF COLLEGE SKI RACING TO HEIGHTS NEVER SEEN BEFORE."**

— Head ski coach **Andy LeRoy** (Fin'03), who previously led the University of Denver to six NCAA championships over 15 seasons as head coach.



# No Cutting Corners

New York native **Sage Hurta** (ChemBioEngr'21) is the NCAA women's indoor track champion in the mile. The self-described perfectionist reveals how embracing failure and a short-term memory are propelling her success.

**How did you get started running?** My parents were part of a local cross-country running team. As soon as I was able to, I wanted to start competing as well. Once I got into middle school, I joined the high school team.

**You won New York's state cross-country title the first time as a 7th grader?** Kind of crazy. I was in a small school group, so it wasn't quite as competitive as with the big schools. I just had a really good race that day.

**What were your biggest challenges when transitioning to a Division-1 program?**

It was a jump in intensity. I remember one of my first weeks, I was so exhausted. I thought: 'How am I going to do four years of this?' But you get used to it pretty quickly. Running is a lot more fun — and you see more gains and fitness — when you're all pushing each other.

**How have your roles on the cross-country and track teams changed?** Freshman year, I was pretty timid. I didn't want to step on anyone's toes, especially when I was gunning for one of the top spots. But you build those relationships, and it becomes a

lot more comfortable. I can be myself and lead through example.

**You were dealing with injuries in 2020. What did you do for rehab?**

With bone injuries, unfortunately, it's mostly rest. I focused on strengthening and stability because I was having the same injury again and again. I needed to fix some things with my foot and hip strength. I had to become more conscious in my training and learn to stop pushing when I'm tired.

**Once sports shut down due to the pandemic, how long did you go between official practices?** We didn't get going until the end of August, so six months. Even from August to January, we had false starts and breaks where we couldn't meet as a team.

**What did you do to train when you couldn't be with your team?** I do everything [my coaches] say... and then five percent more. I always think about those big race opportunities that I'm building towards. Unfortunately, my past injuries coincide with times that we've been [training] on our own because I'll do more than I should. I have a hard time pulling back.

**You had months away from the team, you were rehabbing, and then the 2021 indoor season started. Two months later [in March] you were the National Champion in the mile. How did that happen?** My most recent injury was in November [2020]. When I opened the season at Arkansas in January, I'd only been running for seven weeks. I would go into workouts and think, "I don't know if I can

do that. I haven't run that fast in a year and a half." But, by the time February rolled around, I felt more comfortable and started gaining momentum.

**With a prolonged off-season, how did you keep tabs on rivals?**

The track community, the distance side especially, is super connected. There aren't huge surprises. People who were good in 2019 are generally still good.

**What is something you've learned from Coach Mark Wetmore and Coach Heather Burroughs?** I tend to be a perfectionist, and it can hold me back sometimes.

I'm learning not to fear failure. If you're afraid of failure, you're more likely to hold yourself back and it's harder to recover from a disappointing race. The thing they always say is to have short-term memory, whether you have a good day or bad day.

**Do your study habits inform your approach to running?** I'm super meticulous. I like to check all the boxes with my schoolwork.

I'm not someone who's ever going to cut a corner. I have this saying, "In order to be ahead, you have to get ahead." And I'm that way in my training. You have to be disciplined.

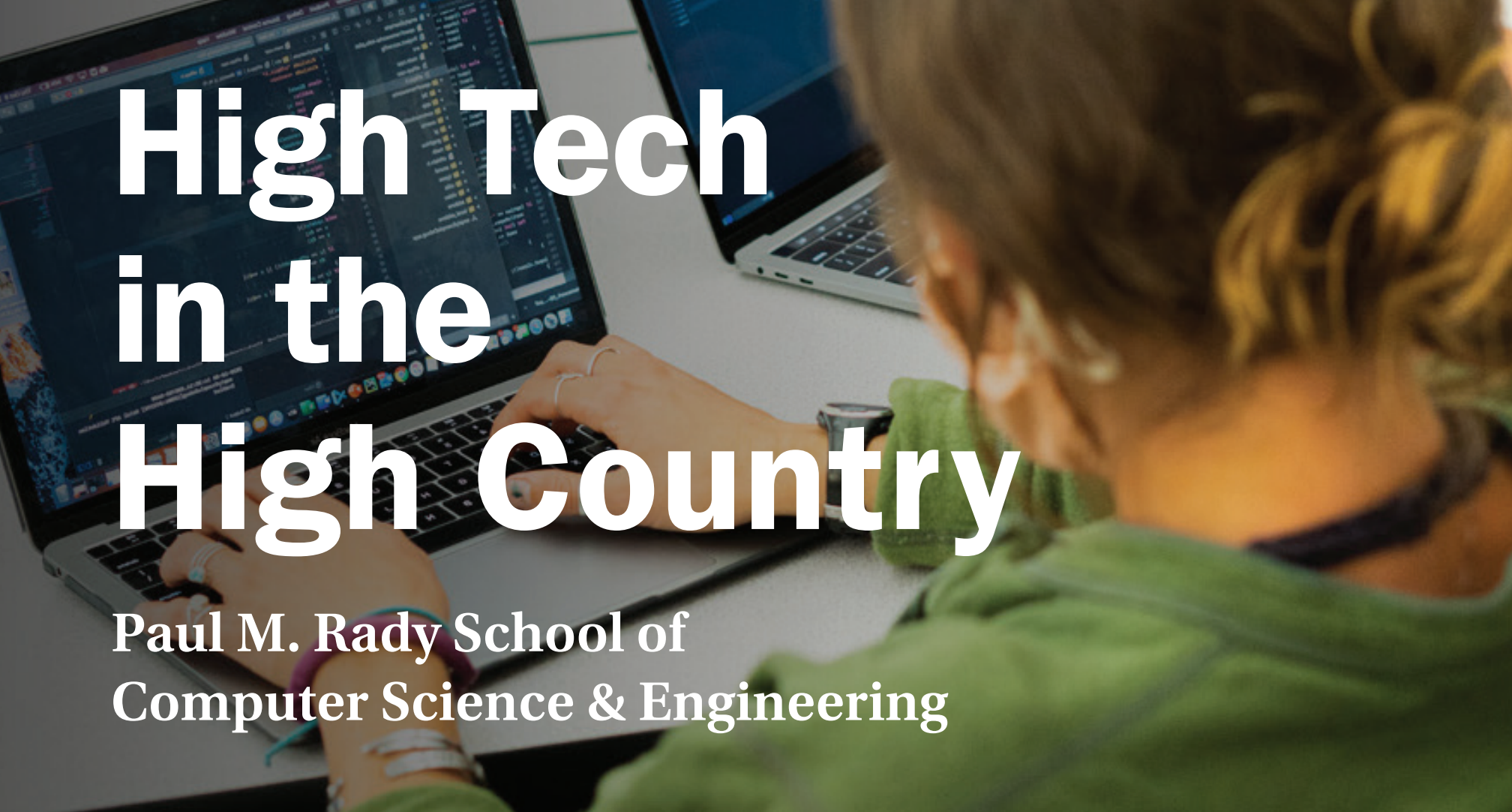
**What's the plan for after graduation?** I am planning on running professionally right out of school. There's this period between the NCAA meet and the Olympic trials when I have to get everything in order with an agent. I hope to run for as long as possible. As of now, I want to be a doctor in the long term.

**If you're away from school and training, what are you doing?**

Whenever I'm home over break, I go crazy baking cakes and croissants. My favorite thing to do is tackle a big baking project or read and hang out with my dogs.







# High Tech in the High Country

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# CLASSnotes



The 2021 Commencement may have looked different, but excitement still filled campus.

**'52** Albuquerque resident **Roscoe Champion** (MechEngr) spent his engineering career in advanced R&D, interrupted by a stint as a Navy air intelligence officer. Then, he had a career with his own business. In the past two years, he's published four books of poetry: *Flakes of Time*; *And Then . . .* (which covers 33 poems from the first year following his wife's death in December 2018); *Wandering*

and *Wondering*; and *Celebrations!* He collaborated with an artist for a children's book of poetry titled *Chrys Caterpillar's Dream*. Next up is his book *My Lifelong Adventure with the Grand Canyon*. Roscoe swam four freestyle events in the Senior Olympics over the course of 12 years and, in four age groups, set 15 New Mexico state records. He won two gold and three silver medals in the Senior Olympic Nationals in Tucson, Arizona, and Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He writes, "Dear Old CU gave me a broad vision and a great start."

**'56** While studying at CU, **Edward F. Altman Jr.** (Fin; DistSt'86) was the business school student president and a member of the ROTC. When he graduated, he immediately served in the Korean War. Edward is searching for a former classmate who gave him a bracelet before graduation. If this was you, please email us at [editor@colorado.edu](mailto:editor@colorado.edu) so we can put you in touch.

**'60** **Jane Weil Romberg** (Edu) was selected as the 2021 recipient of the Hazie Werner Award in

Steamboat Springs for her service to the community over the last 55 years. The award is given each year to a Yampa Valley, Colorado, woman who represents the legendary Hazie Werner's legacy of volunteer work, community commitment and support of local organizations. Jane moved to Steamboat from Denver in 1966.

**'64** **Terry Marshall** (Jour) and **Ann Garretson Marshall** (Engl) of Las Vegas, Nevada, are co-authors of *A Rendezvous to Remember: A Memoir of Joy and Heartache at the Dawn of the Sixties*. The book is about their own romance and took seven years to write. It begins on the steps of Hallett Hall on the CU Boulder campus and is full of CU references. The book is available on Amazon.

Nurse theorist and professor **Jean Watson** (Nurs; MS'66; PhD Edu'73) believes caring goes beyond a patient's physical healing and also includes healing that occurs on a deeper, spiritual level. She created the Theory of Human Caring, for which she has received countless honors and awards, including 15 honorary doctorates. Jean has also written over 30 books and has been named a Living Legend of the American Academy of Nursing.

**'69** Children's author and Peace Corps alumna **Mildred D. Taylor** (MJour) is the winner of the 2021 Children's Literature Legacy Award, which honors an author

or illustrator whose books have made a significant and lasting contribution to literature for children. Mildred's award-winning works include *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*, which won the 1977 Newbery Medal; *The Friendship*; *The Road to Memphis*; and *The Land* — all recipients of the Coretta Scott King Award. Mildred is also the recipient of the 2020 Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement.

**'70** Harvard chemistry professor **James G. Anderson** (PhDAtmos) is the recipient of the 2021 Dreyfus Prize in the Chemical Sciences. He received the award for his decades of crucial contributions to the field of environmental chemistry. Recently, Anderson made a revolutionary link between the decrease of stratospheric ozone and global climate change. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1992 and is a fellow of the American Philosophical Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Geophysical Union.

**'71** Master woodturner **David Ellsworth** (Art; MFA'73) is considered one of the most prominent woodturners in the world, famous for developing his elegant thin-walled hollow forms which may be as thin as 1/16th of an inch. He is also known for advancing the discipline of woodturning as a

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legitimate craft art form. David's work is included in more than 43 museums internationally, including the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. This fall, he will receive the prestigious Smithsonian Visionary Award. David's father, Ralph Ellsworth, was director of CU libraries for many years.

**'72** In April, **Steven Gardner's** (PreMed) book, *Jabberwocky: Lessons of Love from a Boy Who Never Spoke*, was released on Amazon. His story chronicles the life-changing experience that Steven and his son Graham, who had cerebral palsy and died at age 22, had at a "magical summer camp for kids with disabilities... where hope flourishes and playfulness prevails." Steven is an internist at Massachusetts General Hospital and assistant

READ THE OTHER  
DECADES OF CLASS  
NOTES ONLINE AT  
[COLORADO.EDU/COLORADAN](http://COLORADO.EDU/COLORADAN)



professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School.

**'74** In 1977, **Lionel D. Lyles** (MGeog; PhD'77) became the second African American man to graduate with a doctoral degree in geography from CU Boulder. In February, he was a guest on the *Just Folks: Conversations with Emma* podcast in Baltimore. Lionel's episode, "Wake Up, Stand Up for Your Rights," covers social, political and economic issues that face our society today. The podcast is available by name on YouTube.

**'76** After CU, **Douglas Durkin** (Hist) earned a law degree from the University of Baltimore, then practiced law in Breckenridge for eight years. Thereafter, he served as politically appointed county attorney in New Mexico, Virginia

and Maryland before becoming associate general counsel for a federal savings bank in Baltimore County. Now, he works as general counsel for MidAtlantic Farm Credit in Westminster, Maryland.

**'77** Each year, the towns around the D-Day landing beaches hold the D-Day Festival, during which participants from dozens of countries commemorate the event with a mass parachute drop honoring the American and Allied paratroopers who jumped into Normandy on June 6, 1944. Major **Brian Campbell** (IntlAf) led his California-based army reserve team for parachute and aircraft training in Florida as preparation for this June's 77th anniversary commemoration in France.

**'78** Boulder's **Stan Garnett** (Hist;

Law'82), shareholder in the Denver office of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, joined the board of directors of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers. Garnett was elevated to the board in recognition of his work as the chair of the academy's Latin American Task Force and to further strengthen its presence and relations with the legal community in the region. Prior to rejoining his firm, Stan served as district attorney for Colorado's 20th Judicial District for nearly 10 years.

In 1983, at the age of 28, **Doug Larson** (Fin) and two of his oldest friends bought Eldorado Artesian Springs Resort, which opened in 1905 and was described by many as the "Coney Island of the West." From scratch, they have made it the thriving business it is today. Doug is married to **Kathy Larson** (Bio'85) and lives in Eldorado Springs, Colorado.



Joy and hope were sentiments of many of the newest Forever Buffs from the Class of 2021.

## FIVE QUESTIONS

# Art on the Brain



As a Guggenheim memorial fellow and professor emerita of Williams College, **Barbara Takenaga** (Art, Engl'73; MFA'78) is acclaimed for her large-scale abstract paintings. Her art strikes a balance between abstraction and representation, which evokes a range of possibilities for viewers.

**Did your studies in English help shape your artistic style?** Yes. The English Romantic movement and its "reconciliation of opposites" looms large in my work, as did the visual nature of poetry.

**How did your time as a 2020 Guggenheim memorial fellow allow you to grow?** It has allowed me to keep painting in the studio in practical ways, but it has also provided recognition, which fuels my ambition

for the work. There is an apt quote from the artist Joyce Pensato: "As I get older and shorter, I'm thinking bigger."

**How do you find inspiration?** Lately, my paintings rely on the randomness of poured liquid paint. I enjoy trying to rein in the chance, organic image with structure and control.

**What effect are you hoping the openness of possible interpretations will have on**

**viewers?** I'm interested in that place where one can hold those two seemingly opposing views at the same time. Is a shape an island or a submarine, stars or bullet holes, meteors or missiles?

**Did teaching art in higher education change your artistic approach?** Yes. Most artists have two jobs: their "day job" and their studio work. Teaching art allowed me to think about art all the time.



# CLASSnotes



The 2021 Commencement may have looked different, but excitement still filled campus.

**'80 Gary Shirman** (Soc) of Boulder and **Michael Hake** (Mktg'02) of Erie, Colorado, formed Boulder Wealth Advisors, a financial planning and investment management firm.

**'82** Harvard history professor **Philip J. Deloria** (MusEdu; MJour'88) was elected to the

American Philosophical Society. His research and teaching focuses on the histories of the relations among American Indian peoples and the U.S., as well as the histories of Indigenous peoples in a global context.

**'84** Since his first article was published in 1966, **Geary Larrick** (PhDMus) has written for many publications, including *Books in Print*, *RILM Abstracts*, *Music Index* and *WorldCat*. He lives in central Wisconsin with

his wife, Lydia, where he is a retired music professor from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and recently welcomed his second grandson.

**'85** Sports marketing enthusiast **Jenny Anderson** (PE) has worked for the PGA TOUR, U.S. Tennis Association, U.S. Pro Ski Tour and World Cup Soccer 1994. She is now the ride manager for the Buffalo Bicycle Classic, a job she writes is perfect and combines everything she loves. The bicycle

ride supports Colorado high school graduates with four-year need- and merit-based CU Boulder scholarships. This year's race is Sept. 12. Register at [www.buffalobicycle-classic.com](http://www.buffalobicycle-classic.com).

**'86** California bankruptcy attorney **Robyn Sokol** (Fin) joined Leech Tishman as a partner in the business restructuring and insolvency practice group. Robyn has also served as a judicial law clerk in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Central District of California for the Honorable Robin Riblet; and as a judicial law clerk for Judges Ahart, Lax, Lasarow, March and Zurzolo.

**'87** **Tony Pasquini** (Mktg) started OliAMO Olive Oil Company, which offers unfiltered extra-virgin olive oil harvested and cold-pressed in his family's olive press in Abruzzo, Italy. The oil can be bought at [oliamoevo.com](http://oliamoevo.com). Tony is owner and operator of Tony P's, a Denver Italian restaurant he established in 1986. He lives in Denver.

In 2009, **Susie See** (ArchEngr) became the first woman to serve on the board of directors of engineering firm WSP USA. Now, Susie is president and CEO of engineering consultant firm MEYERS+, where she is paving the way for female leaders in architectural and engineering communities. She lives in San Anselmo, California.

**'89** Since he began podcasting in

2005, **Dan Carlin** (Hist) has developed two successful podcasts, *Hardcore History* and *Common Sense*, which have hundreds of millions of downloads, and is one of the most listened-to podcasters of all time. In March, Dan spoke as a part of CU Boulder Where You Are, an online series that highlighted teaching, research and innovation. He lives in Eugene, Oregon.

After 16 years of working at the Barrier Islands Center, located on an 18-acre farm in Machipongo, Virginia, **Sally Dickinson** (Hist; MEdu'92) has been appointed executive director of the cultural center that preserves the history of the Barrier Islands along Virginia's Eastern Shore. Sally's area of focus in this new role is expanding education and opportunities for local children.

After 23 years at his former firm, **Adam Kenny** (PolSci) has joined Ken-nedys, a global law firm, as special counsel in the Basking Ridge, New Jersey, office as a member of the defense group.

**John Towle** (Engl) was appointed chief client officer for Hearts & Wallets, a financial services research and benchmarking firm. John brings more than 30 years of experience in financial services to his role and will focus on product marketing, marketing communications and distribution marketing.

**'91** After receiving his MFA from the San Francisco Art Institute, **Albert Flynn DeSilver** (Art) became an

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internationally published poet, memoirist, novelist and nonfiction writer. He has created the Mindful Authors Accelerator, a wisdom school for creative writers. "There are so many ways CU helped shape my transformation, and it's one of the many reasons I keep connected to Colorado," he writes.

**'92** **Phillip De Leon** (MEIEngr; PhD'95) celebrated his 25th year as an electrical engineering professor at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces. Currently, he serves as associate vice president for research.

**Karl Gopsill** (Geog) of Castle Pines, Colorado, has been promoted to director of IT shared services at Dish Network in Englewood, Colorado. In his new role, Karl brings his interests and expertise from CU Boulder and his MBA from Florida State University to implement strategies and solutions for Dish. He will have more than 100 IT professionals reporting to him.

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In March, the University of Notre Dame Press published *Festive Enterprise: The Business of Drama in Medieval and Renaissance England* by **Jill P. Ingram** (Engl). Jill is associate professor of English at Ohio University.

Anesthesiologist **Cyrus Mirshab** (Econ; MD'98) went to the Los Angeles area in February 2021 to help Southern California Kaiser Permanente with its COVID-19 treatment efforts in ICU units. He spent a week working with Operation Helping Hand from the Colorado Permanente Medical Group.

**'93** Drawing from her childhood, her time at CU and her career as a women's empowerment and communications speaker and coach, **Eliza Vancort** (PolSci) wrote her book, *A Woman's Guide to Claiming Space*. Eliza is founder of The Actor's Workshop of Ithaca, a Cook House Fellow at Cornell University, an advisory board member of the Performing Arts for Social Change, a Diversity Crew partner and a member of Govern for America's League of Innovators. In 2018, Eliza gave a TEDx talk, "Women, Power and Revolutionizing Speech," in which she shared her personal story while offering tools for meaningful personal and social change.

**'95** Always working to keep his roots in the arts, **Giovanni "Gino" Greco** (Thtr), CEO of the

American Red Cross of Colorado & Wyoming, was elected chairman of the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), a special tax district authorized by Denver metro-area voters. With just a penny collected on every \$10 spent in the district, the SCFD grants over \$60 million annually across nearly 300 cultural organizations in support of arts and culture in the Denver metro area. Gino serves as the Jefferson County appointee to the SCFD Board.

Producer **Michael Scheuerman's** (MTele-Comm) film *Hunger Ward* was nominated for the 2021 "Best Documentary Short Subject" Academy Award. The 40-minute film examines the fallout from the six-year war in Yemen — specifically, the starvation of children. This was Scheuerman's first production role. Scheuerman told the engineering college in April: "I want to help tell stories that bring attention to important matters and help bring change. ... Film is a powerful storytelling tool."

**'98 Aswad Allen** (Psych, Soc) was named chief diversity officer for Cal State San Marcos. He previously served as the inaugural chief diversity officer at Emporia State University.

Entertainer and educator **Neil McIntyre** (Comm) lives on the Big Island of Hawaii and has brought his family-friendly hip-hop music to all six Hawaiian islands. This spring, he worked with children at Konawaena High School

on a tribute song to honor the 75th birthday of Challenger astronaut **Ellison Onizuka** (Aero, MS'69; HonDocSci'03), a Konawaena graduate.

As chief technology officer and VP of products for an information management company in Norway, **Jorgen Solberg** (ElEngr) was constantly stuck in unproductive meetings. As a remedy, he founded Decisions, a meeting management software, which is now built into Microsoft Teams and Office 365. The rapidly growing company has won several Microsoft App Awards. He lives in Oslo, Norway.

**Steve Starzec** (MFin) joined the Denver office of BNY Mellon Wealth Management as client strategist. He brings 30 years of experience to the role. He also serves on the Children's Hospital legacy planning advisory council and volunteers as a youth football coach.

**'99 Steven Blincoe** (Kines) performed dynamic maneuvers during a New School Flight University Camp at Hurricane Factory, Madrid. He founded the wind-tunnel school in 2002 and travels the world flying and instructing. He lives in Studio City, California.

Coast Guard commander **Lance Tinstman** (Mktg) was selected to serve as the senior defense official at the U.S. Embassy in Costa Rica. He, his wife, Leah, and son, Lance Jr., relocated to San Jose, Costa Rica, from Washington, D.C., in September 2020.

## FIVE QUESTIONS

# Success Will Follow



Jonathan Treisman

A former Disney executive, **Jonathan Treisman** (Comm'92) is now senior director of strategic partnerships for the Television Academy and Emmy Awards. He works with Fortune 500 companies and innovative brands on sponsorships for Emmy-Awards season red carpet events.

**Do you often rub elbows with celebrities, and do you ever get starstruck?** From my

first job, I was fortunate to engage with celebrities, which now gives me a sense of context

when in those situations. Of course, I can still get starstruck when I meet someone who I'm a super-fan of, like Ron Howard or Denzel Washington.

**How did you come to own your own indie film company?** I wanted to be a film producer, so I started a production company — Flatiron Films. While there, I was executive producer of *Pay It Forward*.

**What was it like to help create popular Disney films when you worked there?** Just to be discussing character and story arcs with the geniuses who created films like *Aladdin* and *Beauty and the Beast* was an education unto itself.

**What would you say to those hoping to enter the entertainment industry?** Leave your ego at the door and pay your dues. In the beginning of your career, money cannot be your primary goal. If you do well in your chosen field, success will follow.

**What is your favorite memory from your time at CU?** Whether it was painting our faces and going to Buffs games, seeing performances at the Boulder Theater or ski trips with my friends, CU was the greatest time of my life!



# CLASSnotes



The 2021 Commencement may have looked different, but excitement still filled campus.

**'00 Kristopher Campbell** (Comm) owns and operates VOX DJs out of Torrence, California. He writes that he has “fun, positive energy and good vibes to share with you all.”

**Kyle Naye** (InfoSys) is senior director of acquisitions at Cityview, a real estate investment management firm. He also has served as a senior associate at Clarion Partners, senior real estate analyst at Northmarq and an officer in the U.S. Navy. Kyle is the founder of the *Global Real Estate Dealmakers* podcast.

Boulder-based writer **Jenny Shank** (MEngl) won the George Garrett Fiction Prize for her story collection *Mixed Company*. The collection will be published by Texas Review Press in October. The stories draw on Jenny's experiences as a music critic, intern with the Colo-

rado Rockies, intern with a concert promoter, tutor for CU football and mentor, as well as her experience attending Denver Public Schools during the era of court-ordered busing for racial integration.

**'02 Michael Hake** (Mktg) of Erie, Colorado, and **Gary Shirman** (Soc'80) of Boulder formed Boulder Wealth Advisors, a financial planning and investment management firm.

**Holly Morphey** (IntIAf) is CEO and founder of Financial Impact, a financial coaching practice, and author of *Simple Wealth*. Published in 2021, the book became a No. 1 bestseller in nine out of 10 categories on Amazon.

**'05 Vanessa Schatz** (Comm; MA'08) managed Growing Up Boulder's (GUB) business development. The CU affiliate program is one of the nation's most successful child-friendly city initiatives that works with

young people of all backgrounds to include their input in local government decisions, including city planning and equitable community development. In May, Congressman **Joe Neguse** (Econ, PolSci'05) attended the program's youth voice celebration. Vanessa has more than 15 years of national and international experience in business and community development, including Fortune 500 companies, nonprofits and government and is a Stanford GSB LEAD (2021-2022) participant.

**'07** At CU, **Jessie Stegner** (Thtr) performed in big roles, acted in the Colorado Shakespeare Festival and studied in London at Shakespeare's Globe. After performing improv in Chicago, she went to UCLA to pursue a degree in screenwriting. Now, she lives in Hollywood and performs in The Second City's “The Really Awesome Improv Show,” intended for families.

**'08 Susan Fricke** (Mktg) wrote a children's book about compound interest, *Pluter & the Spectacular Spaceship*. She writes her idea for the book came when she discovered that compound interest, one key driver of wealth, was elusive to many people. She hopes the book “encourages even just a few kids to start thinking about their financial future.” She lives in New York, New York.

At the 20th Annual APEX Awards ceremony in February, **David Mackin** (ElCompEngr) — CEO of cybersecurity and technology advisory company Rule4 — was awarded the Colorado Technology Association's CEO of the Year.

**David Thul** (Geol) is co-founder and CEO of Geolumina, which creates intuitive AI with geologic insight. His company was selected to be a part of the Equinor & Techstars Energy Accelerator program, which provides resources and mentors to support startup businesses.

As a lead writer for Google Hardware, **Julie Dyer Vree** (Jour) takes on branding, content strategy and creative initiatives under the Pixel and Nest brands. She also spends her time mentoring girls interested in STEM, creative industries or both, and volunteering at hospitals with her certified therapy dog named Snax. She lives in San Francisco with her husband, daughter and beloved French bulldog.

**'09** Along with two colleagues, **Pania Newell** (MCivEngr; PHD'11) — assistant pro-

fessor in the mechanical engineering department at the University of Utah — has started a podcast called *This Academic Life* to support and inspire STEM educators and researchers.

**Molly Rettig** (MJour) is a reporter at the *Fairbanks Daily News-Miner*. She has covered oil and gas, Native culture and 1,000-mile sled dog races. Her first book, *Finding True North: Firsthand Stories of the Booms that Built Modern Alaska*, explores how Alaska transformed from a land of subsistence to a gold and oil paradise.

As the leader of brand, enterprise and global social strategy at Adobe, **Lauren Friedman Suits** (Jour) manages social promotion and creative development. She also spends her time helping women achieve their goals through leadership programs and mentorship programs, exploring the Bay Area and hosting dinner parties. She lives in San Francisco with her husband, two cats and pup.

**'10 Jacqui Dietrich** (MBA) is head of brand, sales and marketing for Startup Space, which helps economic and small business development organizations connect entrepreneurs to resources in their communities while providing data analytics and management systems.

In May, **Gerardo Ortiz** (Advert) delivered the CMCI commencement address virtually. For the event, he created a powerful video, ROAM., available to watch at [colorado.edu/cmcinow](https://colorado.edu/cmcinow). Gerardo is creative

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director at Uninterrupted, founded by Maverick Carter and LeBron James. He lives in Los Angeles.

**'11** In his graphic novella *Emotional Robots: A Question of Existence* **Gregory Fass** (Econ) explores what the world would look like if robots competed with humans in sports, music, art and emotional intelligence.

**'13** After serving as a judicial clerk in the U.S. district court for the Southern District of New York, **Samantha Smith** (Psych) established her insurance recovery and commercial litigation practice at Anderson Kill. In February 2021, she joined Cohen Ziffer Frenchman & McKenna, a boutique insurance recovery law firm, as an associate.

**'14** After graduating from CU, **Kimberly Bellis** (CivEngr) became a special operations officer and was deployed overseas. Now, she leads the special purpose acquisition division at Academy Securities

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investment bank. She also volunteers to help young girls develop healthy habits for Girls on the Run and is a veteran mentor at Veterati.

In May, **Callie Fiedler Higgins** (EIEng; PhD'17) was named a finalist in the 2021 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals. Callie works for the National Institute of Standards and Technology and invented a technology to detect microscopic flaws that threaten the safety and reliability of 3D-printed products, potentially revolutionizing the medical, plastics, coatings, optics and additive manufacturing fields.

Artist **Andrew Jensdotter** (MFA) was featured in his first regional solo show since exhibiting at the Museum of Contemporary Art in 2019. "Road Work" opened May 15 at Denver's K Contemporary and is the largest exhibition he has put together. The work is a result of his reflections during the pandemic.

**Michael Salka** (Env Des) was awarded a Gates Cambridge Scholarship to pursue a PhD in architecture. Michael writes he has worked on a variety of design projects targeting the intersection of ecology, technology and society, as well as research initiatives regarding the circular bioeconomy and nature-based solutions for development. He hopes the PhD program will further his studies of how locally integrated processes can optimize holistic environmental, economic and social sustainability in architectural and urban production.

**'15** While working to complete a master's degree in engineering from Colorado State University, **Michael Castillo** (CivEng) works as a civil engineer for Northern Engineering in Greeley, Colorado. Michael brings expertise in the fields of water and wastewater infrastructure to the municipal services team and is driven by his passion for environmental sustainability.

**Lars Gesing** (MJour) started his own fine art photography business. He writes that after moving to the U.S. from Germany, he found "a home and purpose in the landscapes of the American West." His collection was released March 10.

In December 2020

**David Varel's** (PhDHist) article "Those We Honor, and Those We Don't: The Case for Renaming an OAH Book Award," was published in *The American Historian*. The article resulted in the removal of Avery O. Craven's name from a book award due to his promotion of the "Lost Cause" version of Civil War history, which defends the Confederate war effort. The OAH renamed the award for Lawrence Reddick, a Black scholar whose work undermined the "Lost Cause" narrative. David also has a book out, *The Scholar and the Struggle: Lawrence Reddick's Crusade for Black History and Black Power*.

**'16** Last year, **Berkley Gamble** (Comm) launched her ethical, environmentally friendly clothing brand Past Life the Collective. Read about her in the

spring issue of *CMCI Now* magazine.

Hailing from Mexico and Boulder, **Nayeli Medina** (Arch) is associate at CO Architects in Los Angeles. Her recent projects include the modernization of L.A.'s North Hollywood High School and John H. Francis Polytechnic Senior High School.

At CU, **Mike Mullen** (ChemEng) played in the Golden Buffalo Marching Band and was a member of the Chemical Engineering Honor Society. Later, he earned his law degree at the University of Houston Law Center. Now, he works for the Houston office of Chamberlain Hrdlicka as an associate in the intellectual property practice.

**'17** In his free time, **Garrett Cease** (Engl, Phil; MEdu'20) can be found rock climbing, skiing, meditating and practicing yoga. As a teacher, he often uses methods learned from rock climbing, such as risk mitigation and staying present, to guide his actions in the classroom.

Commercial real estate appraiser **Jim Presley** (Econ) was named one of Tulsa Community College's 50 notable alumni.

**'18** **Morgan Liphart** (Law) published her first poetry chapbook, *Barefoot and Running*. Morgan's contemporary poetry has been anthologized in journals across the world, such as the University of Oxford's *Literary Imagination*, *The Comstock Review* and *Third Wednesday*.

## FIVE QUESTIONS

# Community Connection



Adrian Michael

After graduation, **Adrian Michael Green** (Bus'09) spent 10 years teaching students of all levels, from Teach for America to the University of California Berkeley. Now, through his books and speaking engagements, he seeks to facilitate productive conversations between people with differing backgrounds and cultural identifiers.

**What was the most impactful thing you learned while working with Teach for America?** The importance of connecting to the community. It was important for my students and their parents and guardians to visibly see me, not just in the school but in the neighborhood.

**What led you to pursue this path?** No one wants to hear one another. I'm trying to leave this place better than I found it. If I

lean into critical and courageous conversations, it may inspire others to do the same.

**How do you hope that your work will empower people?** I hope my words find people where they are in their journey and inspire them to do something. Whether that means they speak up, listen, unlearn or push back, I hope they do that.

**What do you think is the biggest obsta-**

**cle society has to overcome regarding communication?** We have to let go of the single story.

**What advice would you give to CU students who are searching for their purpose?** Wonder "why." Don't take on definitions that aren't of your own choosing. Reflect on how you impact and view others. It's okay if your purpose changes! It will always change and modify as you live your life.



# INmemoriam

## 1930s

Ellen Smedley Smith (A&S'36)

## 1940s

Marion Boyle Jenks (Fin'40)

Phyllis Fundingsland McKeever (A&S'44)

Lenore Doner Mulbery (A&S'44)

Juneva Brown Poole (MusEdu'45)

Charlotte Johnson Henderson (A&S'46)

Shirley Trontell Larson (A&S'46)

Edith E. Tobin (Bus'46)

Gloria Demmon Gregory (A&S'47)

Eugenia I. Kennedy (Mktg'47)

Jean Thompson Laughlin (MedTech'47)

Helen Kelsall Wilson (HomeEcon'47)

William G. Grigsby (Mgmt'48)

Marjorie Lott Hill (Hist'48)

Willis B. Johnson (CivEngr'48; MS'50)

Edward W. Lazell Jr. (CivEngr'48)

JoAnn Flanders Fuller (Nurs'49)

George B. Huster (EiEngr'49)

Beverly Ann Lutz (Art'49)

Madeliene James Maginn (Nurs'49)

Stanley R. Mitick Jr. (MechEngr'49)

Rudolph O. Pozzatti (Art'49; MFA'50)

Helen Danford Sanks (Nurs'49)

## 1950s

Marjorie Flores Bunting (Art'50)

Shirley Smith Canepa (A&S ex'50)

Philip M. Daily (A&S ex'50)

Kenneth L. Gillespie (Acct, MechEngr'50)

William R. Kappes (Jour'50)

Robert W. Meigs (Bus, CivEngr'50)

James W. Norcross (A&S'50)

William H. Rickard Jr. (Btny'50; MA'53)

Marjorie Gardner Schweitzer (Anth'50)

John D. Sheaffer (Mgmt'50)

Audrey Light Temple (A&S ex'50)

William H. Tuller Jr. (CivEngr'50)

Herbert L. Bacon (Econ'51; MA'53)

John J. Borkowski (Pharm'51)

Richard B. Cantrell (PolSci'51)

Carl A. Cerveny (Mktg'51)

Donald I. Degani (Pharm'51)

Sheridan Youngblood Fuqua (MEdu'51)

William C. Haase (Fin'51)

Eugene C. Kartchner (EngrPhys, Mgmt'51)

Doris Haury Kelton (Edu'51)

George W. Shapard (Geol'51)

Donna Shaver Shearer (Edu'51)

Sue Dickson Shipley (Jour ex'51)

Henry L. Strauss (PreMed'51; HonDocSci'18)

John C. Woodis (Engr ex'51)

Shirley Paidar Bogardus (A&S'52)

Frank M. Cеровski (MBusEdu'52)

Thomas A. Dinkel (Fin'52)

Thomas J. Golden (Econ'52; Law'54)

Richard E. Grayson (Fin'52)

Elizabeth Carpenter Harrington (Edu'52)

David K. Hight (A&S ex'52)

Arlene Ward Kern (A&S'52)

Howard C. Klemme (A&S'52; Law'54)

Elmer Kaponookalani Manley (Soc ex'52)

Milo L. McGonagle Jr. (Acct'52)

C. Victor Quinn (Fin'52; Law'55)

Henry J. Varga (EiEngr'52)

Joan Hammer Watson (Jour'52)

Kenneth H. Wolvington (EiEngr'52)

Nancy Corbett Brown (MA&S ex'53)

Mary Ann Petersen Higley (A&S ex'53)

W. D. Milliken (Law'53)

Albert J. Niznik Jr. (A&S'53)

Philip R. Pearl (Bus, CivEngr'53)

Ray O. Sandberg (ChemEngr'53)

Kathleen M. Springer (Pharm'53; MS'68)

Charline Bardwell White (A&S ex'53)

Joseph A. Ball (EngrPhys'54)

Nancy Shivers Brown (A&S ex'54)

Nancy L. Dahl (A&S ex'54)

Richard V. Hawk (MMusEdu'54)

Roger D. Hunt (PolSci'54; Law'60)

William A. J. MacLeod (Hist'54; MD'64)

Margaret Bakker Marchello (Art'54)

Richard C. Mott (Mktg'54)

Chen I. Tsai (MPsych ex'54)

Virgil A. Burks Jr. (Fin, MechEngr'55)

Richard E. Cowling Jr. (MBusEdu'55)

Joseph F. Dernovshek (MechEngr'55)

Evarts C. Fox Jr. (Geol'55)

Mary Joann Weaver Grose (MMus ex'55)

Marjorie Duff Kottenstette (A&S ex'55)

Astrid Quarck Munroe (Edu'55)

Florence F. Simons (A&S ex'55)

Harlan C. VanOver (MechEngr'55)

Oran R. White (EngrPhys'55; PhD'62)

Dona Lotka Ziegler (A&S'55)

Janet Bell Zuber (Edu'55)

Pierre N. Baratelli (A&S'56; MA&S'59)

John M. Dale (Hist'56; MEdu'87)

Virginia Sauer Davis (A&S'56)

Jane Maree Graves (A&S ex'56)

Janet Wilcox Hallin (Bus'56)

Carole A. Hoefs (A&S'56)

David D. Jeffres (A&S'56; MA'58)

Richard F. Merritt (Acct'56; MMgmt'59)

Charles A. Parker III (Fin'56)

Margaret Ann Pieper (MBusEdu'56)

William T. Reilly (Bus ex'56)

Robert N. Storms (A&S'56)

Raymond F. Van De Weghe (Acct'56)

Mark H. Bearwald (Jour'57)

James E. Carpenter (Law'57)

Mont C. Draper III (Fin'57)

Leroy H. Lammer (EiEngr'57)

Robert Scholl (A&S ex'57)

Thomas D. Seeley Jr. (IntlAf'57)

Roger E. Stevens (Law'57)

Mary McCormick Willoughby (A&S'57)

John R. Woodhull (EngrPhys'57; MAppMath'60)

Polly Kamps Addison (Art'58)

David W. Albers (MAcct'58)

Gordon K. Blenderman (MA&S'58)

Robert S. Bly (PhDChem'58)

Peter D. Cook (Mgmt'58)

John H. Davidson (Spch'58)

Lois Peel Farrand (Mus ex'58)

Robert C. Haynes (MBasSci'58)

James S. Inatsuka (A&S ex'58)

James R. Kannoit (MechEngr'58)

William D. Kvaternick (MusEdu'58)

Helen Pedroja (A&S'58)

William W. Simmons (PreMed'58; MD'59)

Mary Ann Berger Tyler (A&S'58)

Robert L. Wiswell (EiEngr'58)

Paul W. Wright (Fin'58)

Barbara Call (Nurs ex'59)

Mary Auer Fischer (Math'59)

Ray K. Grieb (Engl'59)

Donald A. Gustafson (Mktg'59)

Thomas Keesling (Bus'59)

Charles Kintz (CivEngr'59)

David O. Stocking (Mktg'59)

## 1960s

Myron R. Chartier (Hist'60)

George C. Gibbins (A&S ex'60)

Jerrold Himelfarb (Pharm'60)

Dale R. Hultgren (MEdu'60)

Sarah Parsons Sayre (A&S'60)

Priscilla Gaffney Sherman (MA&S'60)

Carol Magby Stanton (Nurs'60)

Duane A. Youngdahl (MAcct'60)

Delford C. Becke (A&S ex'61)

Jan M. Carlson (A&S'61; MS'63)

Barbara Lehde deRubertis (Psych'61)

Rustem I. Gamow (A&S'61; MBasSci'63; PhD'67)

Gerard W. Guerin (EiEngr'61)

Scott C. Hannah (Mktg'61)

Marilyn R. Harris (A&S ex'61)

Julia Porter Herring (Edu'61)

Brenda Nagel Holben (Edu'61)

Robert G. Jensen (PolSci'61; MPubAd'66)

Gurley M. Maurin (HomeEcon'61)

Jack W. Olsen (A&S ex'61)

Rocco A. Santarelli III (A&S'61)

Donald W. Davis (PolSci'62)

Harry W. Herkert (Mus'62)

Gilbert F. Kelley (MAeroEngr'62; PhD'68)

Charles W. Masten (ChemEngr'62)

David D. McCarthy (CivEngr'62)

Louis E. C. Parmelee (Geol'62)

Frances Hayden Rhodes (Art'62)

Vernon W. Walters (A&S'62; MD'67)

Lowell H. Watts (MPubAd'62)

Theodore J. Weiss (Acct'62)

Ronald G. Wilson (A&S'62)

George W. Barnett Jr. (A&S'63)

Donald A. Brennan (Mgmt'63; MPubAd'68)

Michael F. Brovsky (Mktg'63)

Patricia A. Burger (Mus ex'63)

Claude C. Crabb (A&S'63)

Amelia J. Dilworth (Edu'63)

Marilyn Beardmore Hull (HomeEcon'63)

William M. Kuhn (Mktg'63)

Philip S. Lockwood (MusEdu'63; MMus'68)

M. Ann Padilla (A&S'63)

Arthur W. Schulze (PhDA&S'63)

Richard J. Swanson (A&S'63)

Naymond E. Thomas (MMus'63)

Sally Bodmer Weaver (A&S'63)

Clair Doney Woodward (MEdu'63)

John D. Baker (CivEngr'64)

Douglas D. Campbell (Psych'64)

Dabney C. T. Davis Jr. (MEdu'64)

Paul L. Gyder (PhysTher'64)

Reet L. Henze (MNurs'64)

Brigit Freeland Kubiak (Germ'64)

Ronnie L. Leaf (MechEngr, Psych'64)

Donald K. Leonard (A&S'64)

Earl C. Liston Jr. (A&S'64)

Lawrence H. Lobel (Fin'64)

Mary Hull Mohr (PhDEngl'64)

Richard E. Parquette (Mktg'64)

Howard W. Paulson (A&S'64)

James C. Bull (PolSci'65; Law'68)

Don O. Christianson (MA&S'65)

James H. Fauske (A&S'65)

Dorothy Goodenough (A&S ex'65)

William S. Jump (Acct'65)

Patricia Bryan McElhinney (Nurs'65)

Donald R. Norton (MA&S'65; PhD'66)

Donald A. Sibson (Mgmt'65; MS'66)

William D. Bishopp (A&S'66; PhDEcon'75)

Amanda Snader Clymer (Engl'66)

Edward W. Cook (PhDChem'66)

Alvin D. Finneseth (MPerServ'66)

Alan E. Fisk Sr. (EiEngr'66)

Michael J. Flaxer (A&S ex'66)

Wylie J. High (PhysTher'66)

Theodore L. Jones (Acct'66)

Sharon Varian Loeffler (ChemEngr'66)

David E. Menge (Mktg'66)

Gerald R. Pifer (Econ'66)

Thomas F. Rader (A&S'66; MA'74; PhDComm'74)

Helen J. Ridge (MPerServ'66)

Spencer F. Silver (PhDA&S'66)

Gerald P. Speckhard (EdD'66)

Robert M. Strong (A&S'66)

Roy A. Swanson (ChemEngr'66; MPhys'71; PhD'83)

David M. Thomas (MMus'66)

W. A. Anderson (Mktg'67; MBA'69)

Steven H. Boles (A&S'67)

To report a death, call 303-541-1290 or 800-405-9488, email [advancement.records@cu.edu](mailto:advancement.records@cu.edu) or write Records Management, 10901 W. 120th Ave., Ste. 200, Broomfield, CO 80021. Please include date of death and other relevant information.

Daniel F. Dahlin (A&S'67)

James P. Hanson (PE'67; MS'73)

Thomas H. Israel (MEdu ex'67)

Barry J. King (A&S'67; Hist'71)

Terry M. Krankota (Mgmt'67)

Dorothy T. Monk (MPsych'67)

Richard D. Moore (APMath'67; MBA'68)

James A. Roedl (MMus'67)

Bonnie Bloom Walter (Nurs'67)

Edward M. Woodard (A&S ex'67)

Willard C. Young (PhDA&S'67)

Shirley D. Anderson (Edu'68)

Terrence J. Dotson (MMgmt'68)

Gloria J. Dveirin (Span'68; MEdu'71)

Terence P. Keleher (Econ'68)

Clarold F. Morgan (Law'68)

Ralph L. Lane (Acct'68)

Roger L. Oberhelman (Acct'68)

Mitchel M. Roland (Chem'68)

Frank C. Sherwin (Mktg'68)

Gunars Strazdin (MFA'68)

George J. Sweanor (A&S'68)

Myron U. Trenne (MEiEngr'68)

Lyman G. Chan (MPharm'69)

Kay Bowman Dunton (Art'69)

Robert L. Durham (Psych'69)

Justin A. Flora (A&S ex'69)

Michael B. Letkeman (Mktg'69)

Donald E. Marturano (Econ'69)

Norbert L. Montano (A&S'69)

William H. Patterson (MBtny'69)

John L. Poole (PolSci'69)

Marion W. Ray (MBA'69)

Milton E. Strader (ApMath'69)

Susan Beatty Tomazin (Edu'69)

## 1970s

Norma L. Boslough (A&S



# FEEDback



On March 22, 10 people were killed when a shooter opened fire at King Soopers off Table Mesa Drive.

## A Community Changed

**I JUST RECEIVED THE SPRING 2021 ISSUE OF THE COLORADAN. ABSOLUTELY BEAUTIFUL.**

And given this past week [March 22, 2021], it made me wonder how different the Summer issue will be. And it saddens me how long might be the pall that the tragic 2021 Boulder Massacre eventually casts.

**Gregory Hinton**  
(Bus'77)  
Los Angeles

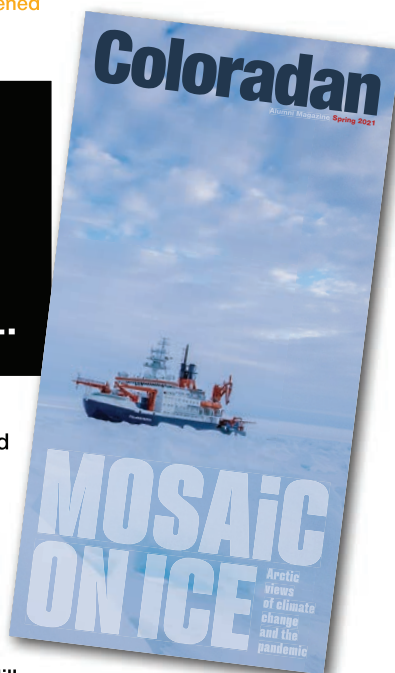
## COVID Restrictions for Wind Instruments?

I am a retired nuclear/mechanical engineer living in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

I am also an amateur musician (clarinet and saxophone). I was particularly interested in the "Aerosol Superstar" article in the Spring issue. In the picture at the top of the article, I noticed that Shelly Miller was placing a cover over the bell of a clarinet in order to minimize aerosol distribution when the instrument is played. I can see how a cover over the bell works on brass instruments (trumpets, trombones, French horns,

The Spring issue featured engineering's Shelly Miller, whose COVID-19 work has been used widely in the U.S.

tubas, etc.) as all of the air blown into the horn by the musician transfers through all the tubing of



Shelly Miller worked towards reducing indoor COVID-19 airborne transmission.

the instrument and exits at the bell. However, for woodwinds (clarinets, saxophones, flutes, bassoons, etc.), unless you are playing the lowest note on the horn (all finger holes and keys closed), the air blown into the horn by the musician comes out all the open key holes as well as the bell. It seems a person would need to put the whole instrument into a bag to keep the blown aerosols from dispersing into the room (especially for the high notes where most of the keyholes are open).

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, all five of the bands and musical groups that I play in have been on hold since March of 2020, and I really miss playing. Therefore, I am really curious about how professor Miller was able to successfully mitigate the COVID risks for musical wind instrument performers at the university.

**David Dennison**  
(MechEngr'73)  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

## Idyllic Buildings

I'm always impressed by the continuity of the design of new buildings on campus with the themes of the past with the

"trademark sandstone brick, limestone trim and red clay roof tile."

How about a story on the unsung craftspeople that continue to build the new buildings and keep the tradition alive?

**David Armstrong**  
(Econ'68)  
Thornton, Colorado

## Coloradan Thoughts

I am always impressed by the breadth and substance of the subjects covered. Even though most don't apply to me, I do find them interesting and informative. I like that this magazine is not just a "rah-rah" tool for CU. Despite this, it still instills pride in our university. I have always marveled at how much information you are able to gather on myself and my fellow alumni.

**Joe Felice** (Span'72)  
Aurora, Colorado

## Correction

I am a communications officer at The Colorado Health Foundation, and I work on our annual poll, Pulse. I got an alert about your March 18 article "How to Cope in a Pandemic." I plan to share it on our social media channels but saw that a correction is needed. In the article, it states: "The

statistics back her up. A September 2020 survey from the Colorado Health Foundation found 77% of Coloradans reported anxiety, loneliness or stress related to COVID-19." In fact the percentage is actually 53% of Coloradans who have reported they experienced mental health strain, such as anxiety, loneliness or stress. You can see that in our interactive dashboard [with Pulse].

Austin Montoya  
*[Editor's Note: We updated our online version with the correct statistics. We regret the error.]*

## Emirates Mars Mission

The following letter is in response to our March 31 online exclusive, "Everything You Need to Know About CU's Involvement in the Emirates Mars Mission."

I really enjoyed that Mars article. I didn't realize that it was a collaborative effort, or that CU was involved, let alone at that level. And so respectful to the Emiratis, really a professional grade article — it gave plenty of information for us to understand who was involved, what was contributed, what's the background, what's the accomplishment, etc.

**Yousif Aluzri** (MCD-Bio'15)





Isaiah Chavous,  
2020-21 CU  
student body  
president.

## “My Time as CU Student Body President”

Following is an excerpt from **Isaiah Chavous’** (PolSci’21) guest opinion essay in the Boulder *Daily Camera*, published May 20. Read the full essay at [dailycamera.com](http://dailycamera.com):

I learned quite a lot in my senior year at the University of Colorado Boulder, but not all of it came from the classroom. I had the privilege to serve as student body president, which provided me a front-row seat to engage and observe during perhaps the most tumultuous year in CU history.

Despite all odds, much was accomplished this year. Yet there is much still to do.

The confluence of COVID and a civil rights reckoning had an impact on just about everything, not just at CU, but in society.

Through it all, my fellow students and I received important lessons we can carry with us the rest of our lives. We learned how to adapt to dramatic shifts in how our education was delivered and how to be flexible. I suspect these skills will serve us extremely well in the future.

We saw that we could transition to remote learning and developed an appreciation for faculty who had to do the same. It wasn’t optimal for anyone, but it worked. Students had to be creative and improvisational in how we fostered the “traditional” college experience so crucial to academic success and

personal growth. Again, valuable lessons.

Student government was particularly invested in focusing on student mental health. The isolation, uncertainty and fear the pandemic wrought led to a crush of need for mental health services. We worked with the administration to ramp up services and increase personnel, and to connect those with students in need. This effort must continue as the pandemic subsides.

The racial reckoning that began with George Floyd’s murder was a significant focus this year, as well as a tremendous learning experience. Students engaged on the issue at unprecedented levels, and it remains at the forefront. We learned how to make our voices heard and how to work productively.

**Isaiah Chavous**  
(PolSci’21)  
Colorado Springs,  
Colorado

*Letters edited for  
length and clarity.*

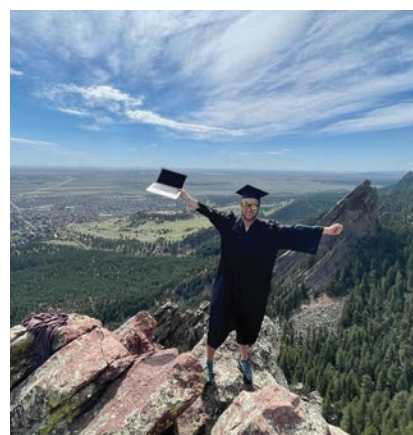
## Social Buffs



Graduates in the wild  
[@hailee\\_lansville](https://twitter.com/hailee_lansville)



A day to remember  
[#cuboulder](https://twitter.com/cuboulder)  
[@remingtonrobinson](https://twitter.com/remingtonrobinson)



A mountaintop Zoom graduation  
[@sctbke](https://twitter.com/sctbke)

# INmemoriam continued

Lane R. Mohler (Engr ex’88)  
Bari E. Hahn (EnvDes’89)  
Leroy C. Johnson (A&S ex’89)  
Jeffrey P. Paffendorf (Fin’89)

## 1990s

Charles T. Bradley (EPOBio’90)  
Michael D. Matthies (CompSci’90;  
MBA, MTeleComm’00)  
Peter C. Abernethy (Engl’93)  
Paul W. Craig (MEIEng’93)  
Troy E. Zopf (Kines’93)  
Jennifer Croteau Alpert (Psych’94)  
Stuart D. Babb (MBA’95)  
Jason Polao (Mktg’95)  
Brenda L. Bailey (CompSci ex’96)  
Jan Ellen St. John (MEdu’96)  
Matthew S. Bolinger (CivEng’97)  
Carolyn M. Dunlap (Engl’97)  
Christopher S. Loth (EnvSt’98)  
Matthew Daniel Martin (InfoSys’99)

## 2000s

Edgard Coly (PhDFren’00)  
Eric Stocker (MBA’00)  
Erik L. Dienberg (EIEng’01)  
Megan Lindeberg Cheese (A&S ex’02)  
Emily J. Nebel (CivEngr,  
EnvEngr’03)  
Ryan N. Lane (Comm’07)

## 2010s

Geoffrey B. Goral (ArchEng’11)  
Trent P. Lyon (Jour’14)  
Cynthia Bishop Jonas (Jour,  
RelSt’16; MA ex’21)  
Zachary Seitz (Mktg’17)

## 2020s

Steven L. Pardo (Bus’20)  
Shawn T. Collins (Engl ex’21)

Zachary S. Muth (A&S ex’21)  
Samuel Yeager (PolSci ex’21)  
Anthony L. Casares (Neuro ex’22)  
Dylan A. Wedel (ExpSt ex’22)  
Matthew J. Bussey (Film ex’24)  
Sophia M. Benson (EnvSt ex’25)  
Trevor L. Berry (Hist ex’25)  
Campbell B. Sullivan (AeroEngr ex’25)

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CU Athletics  
Connie M. Hauser, Friend  
Richard E. Jones, Biology  
Teri L. Leiker, Friend  
Roland Reiss, Art  
John R. Rohner, Museums  
Helen B. Wasley, Friend  
Alan D. Wright, CU Transportation

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## STAFFBOX

# Coloradan

**Volume 25, Number 3  
Summer 2021**

*Coloradan* aims to inform, inspire and foster community among alumni, friends and admirers of the University of Colorado Boulder, and to engage them in the life of the university. Published by the CU Boulder Alumni Association, the magazine appears in print three times annually, and online at [colorado.edu/coloradan](http://colorado.edu/coloradan).

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MPubAd’09)

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Pentagram Austin

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# THEN

SEPTEMBER 1963

Several months after the March on Washington, CU professor Charles Nilon spoke at a civil rights demonstration on campus outside of the UMC. The first Black faculty member at the university, Nilon worked passionately alongside his wife, Mildred — the university's first Black librarian — to make CU more equitable and inclusive.

As a friend and mentee of the Nilons, **Tom Windham** (PhDPsych'75) said in a 2017 College of Education article: "When [the Nilons] saw you, they really saw you. They wanted you to know that just by being who you are, you deserved respect and opportunity."