In the third year of its 10-year plan to end homelessness, the City of Chicago has begun a radical transformation of how it addresses this challenging social issue. “Getting Housed, Staying Housed” is the city’s innovative model for transitioning the current system from a network of shelters to one that emphasizes prevention and permanent housing.

Loyola’s Center for Urban Research and Learning (CURL), partnering with the Alliance to End Homelessness, will join this important endeavor by conducting an eight-month research project to learn more about an often overlooked subset of the homeless population: older individuals. The University’s team includes researchers from CURL and Loyola’s sociology department. In Chicago and other cities around the country, a large percentage of the homeless are over the age of 50. Agencies providing services to the homeless report increasing numbers of older clients, particularly those ages 50-64; this segment will continue to grow as Baby Boomers age.

It’s not clear whether the older age group is being adequately served in areas such as community mental health, job training and placement, and public benefits. During its study, CURL will create a profile of Chicago’s homeless, aged 50+, to gain a better understanding of their unique needs and how the city can better assist this population. The Alliance, with the support of a grant from the Retirement Research Foundation, will then use the research findings to inform key stakeholders, develop policy recommendations, and advocate for new policies and resources.

Loyola has selected its inaugural group of Ricci Scholars to participate in an innovative research and cultural immersion program based on the theme, “the meeting of East and West.” Five Ricci Scholars will spend one semester at the John Felice Rome Center and one semester at The Beijing Center for Chinese Studies (TBC). Upon returning to Chicago, the students will prepare a senior thesis or portfolio while also serving as peer mentors to incoming Ricci Scholars.

In keeping with the Jesuit tradition of exploring and learning about different cultures and beliefs, the Ricci Scholars program offers undergraduates the opportunity for guided international research while studying across a number of disciplines. Unlike other international experiences, the Ricci program allows students to engage two cultures within the space of nine months and also challenges them to integrate these experiences with their own culture.

During their first semester at the John Felice Rome Center, scholars will study Italian and become familiar with European culture through courses and guided travel. Students will then spend their winter break stateside before heading to Asia for their semester at TBC. There they will study Chinese, travel throughout the country, and learn about its institutions and rich history.

This year’s Ricci cohort and their areas of scholarship: Laura Burns (Journalistic Approaches to Urban Poverty in Rome and Beijing), Alexander Gottemoller (Italian and Chinese Perspectives on Embryonic Stem Cell Research), Michael Jamroszczyk (Photographic Essay: Faces of the New World), Elaina Mack (Art, Iconography, and Worship in Eastern and Western Practice), and Nicole Dawson (Building Green in Italy and China).

The Ricci Scholars program is supported by a generous donor gift. The scholarship covers round-trip travel, language tutorials, program seminars, research expenses, and study travel.
CURL honors retirement of Kale Williams

The Center for Urban Research and Learning (CURL) recently bid farewell to one of its most valuable team members, scholar Kale Williams. In an event held at the Loyola University Museum of Art on January 12, members of CURL, friends, and colleagues honored Williams as he retired after many years of service to the University, CURL, and its numerous community partners.

Williams has served Loyola as the Considine Chair in Applied Ethics and, for the last 10 years, as the senior scholar at CURL. Most recently, Williams co-chaired last summer’s commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the Chicago Freedom Movement. In addition, he has been honored by the City of Chicago’s Commission on Human Relations (with the Thomas and Eleanor Wright Award).

At CURL, Williams’ major interests included Loyola’s community interaction in Rogers Park and Edgewater, hunger, affordable and fair housing, and housing mobility.

Before coming to Loyola, Williams had been executive director of the Leadership Council for Metropolitan Open Communities, a regional fair housing agency based in Chicago and founded as part of a campaign led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Prior to that, Williams served with the American Friends Service Committee (Quakers) in Philadelphia, Pasadena, Nigeria, and Chicago.

Jesuit First Studies

Loyola’s Jesuit First Studies program is one of only three of its kind in the nation. There are 40 young Jesuits currently in the program, preparing for future ministry as priests or brothers. Each will spend three years here at Loyola, taking courses in theology and philosophy, living in the Jesuit community, and doing ministerial service on- and off-campus. This is the second stage in the 11-year Jesuit formation process. The process begins with two years of study and training called Novitiate, after which the Jesuits profess their first religious vows. Then, they enter a First Studies program. “In Jesuit training, there is an emphasis on philosophy and theology, on clear thinking and affective maturity, and on social justice,” says Paul Mueller, S.J., academic director of the First Studies program and assistant professor in the philosophy department. “It is part of their personal and academic formation to become Jesuit priests and brothers. The goal is to come to some sort of synthesis of philosophy, theology, faith, and commitment to justice.” Jesuits in First Studies are required to complete 10 hours of off-campus ministerial work each week and to reflect on that work. Many are also involved on-campus, as chaplains of sports teams, leaders of Christian Life Communities (CLCs), and in many other capacities. “Many work as volunteers with Campus Ministry, and they provide a wonderful service to the University and its students,” says Mueller. In addition to LUC’s own program, other First Studies Programs are located at Saint Louis University and Fordham University.

The Loyola First Studies program will be hosting representatives from the two other U.S. First Studies programs for a conference in March. The title of the conference is “Doing Catholic Philosophy: Jesuit Reflections on the Intellectual Life.”

New program to protect the rights of children

To reinforce the University’s commitment to the Jesuit social justice mission, Loyola has created the Center for the Human Rights of Children. This new program will represent, coordinate, and stimulate efforts of the Loyola community to protect the human rights of children, locally and abroad. Dr. James Garbarino, the Maude C. Clarke Chair in Humanistic Psychology, will serve as the center’s director.

“I think the center will bring an appreciation for how general issues of human rights—a fundamental concern of our Jesuit tradition—apply to children,” Dr. Garbarino says.

Program activities will include scholarly symposia, publications for professionals and students, international immersion programs, a faculty and graduate student fellowship program, and other events aimed at raising awareness among the Loyola community.

The center will host three introductory seminars this spring; the first will be held March 14 at the Water Tower Campus. All faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to participate. Please contact James Garbarino at jgarbar@luc.edu for additional information. Watch for details in your Inside Loyola Weekly e-mail.

“The goal is to come to some sort of synthesis of philosophy, theology, faith, and commitment to justice.”
Business ethics prof lectures on importance of being…funny

At a recent Living Extraordinarily Luncheon, Dr. Al Gini, professor of business ethics, spoke on “The Importance of Being FUNNY!” to a packed crowd of faculty and staff. Billed as “a dose of lighthearted inspiration,” Gini’s presentation explored how laughter and love are essential in living out the calling. The event was sponsored by Evoke. For information on Evoke, please visit LUC.edu/evoke.

Phonathon training completed

In late January, a new group of prospective Phonathon callers underwent intensive phone solicitation training. Students were critiqued on mock solicitation calls under the guidance of Shaun Keister, the vice president for development outreach at the Iowa State University Foundation. The weekend was a mix of hard work and fun for all involved.

Museum director presents at the Smithsonian

Pam Ambrose, director of cultural affairs at LUMA, recently took part in a panel discussion, “New Media and Museums,” hosted by the Smithsonian Material Culture Forum at the Luce Foundation Center of American Art in Washington, D.C. Ambrose presented “Enhancing Exhibitions: Digital Photography as a Museum Tool,” which focused on LUMA’s controversial inaugural exhibit, Caravaggio: Una Mostra Impossibile.

Ambrose was one of three panelists recruited to demonstrate the ways in which new technology such as interactive Web programs, on-site information kiosks, and high-resolution digital photography can enhance exhibitions and the visitor experience. Ambrose provided the audience with background on LUMA’s decision to open with the digital Caravaggio show, public reaction to the exhibit, and the efficacy of using reproductions to augment original works when loans from outside sources are not possible.

“I was delighted to see how many people in the audience were eager to learn more about the potential applications for digital reproductions and the controversy the exhibition caused,” says Ambrose. “We took a chance with this exhibit, but after achieving incredible visitor attendance and a great deal of press coverage surrounding it, we learned that people are receptive to this new use of technology. Judging from the Smithsonian audience enthusiasm, I’m confident there may be more of these exhibitions organized nationally in the future.”

Founders return to Baumhart Hall

Some familiar faces will soon be seen around campus. Santa Fe artist and iconographer Jan Farrell has been commissioned to create artwork depicting the three founders of the Society of Jesus: Ignatius Loyola, Francis Xavier, and Peter Faber. Their likenesses will be fashioned in the traditional Byzantine style and will be housed in the chapel in Baumhart Hall. Replicas also will be installed in the first floor lobby of Lewis Towers.

profile

ERIC JONES

ASSISTANT TREASURER AND CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER
BA Political Science, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana; MBA, University of Illinois

Q. What was your first job?
A. After graduate school, I started working for a consulting company in Chicago. I left the job after one month because the company learned that my father was in the same business and feared I would act as a corporate spy.

Q. What do you do for lunch?
A. Usually I bring something back to my desk, and more often than not it is from Wow Bao. They know my standing order and expect me at a certain time of day.

Q. What is your most prized possession?
A. Our home and HDTV.

Q. What do you like to do when you’re not working?
A. I like to spend as much time as possible with my son and wife, of course. I also enjoy fitness workouts when time allows—swimming, running, and cycling. I am training for sprint distance triathlons in the spring and summer.

Q. If you could invite three people to a dinner party, who would they be? What would you serve?
A. Warren Buffett, Bill Gates, and David Swenson. I would serve a butternut squash soup to start, followed by beef tenderloin with something on the side, and, for dessert, my wife’s new recipe for brownies.
CSI: Loyola

The College of Arts and Sciences recently added a forensic science major to its curriculum. According to Jeff Doering, chairman of the biology department, the new program was developed in response to growing student interest in this increasingly popular field, which combines natural science and criminal justice. Applying knowledge and technology from anthropology, biology, and chemistry, forensic scientists interact with the criminal justice system to collect, examine, and evaluate criminal evidence. Current media focus on forensic science has created a fast-expanding job market for graduates with bachelor’s degrees in the field.

Loyola is the only university in Illinois to presently offer an undergraduate program in this discipline. Thanks to a grant from Beckman Coulter Corp., the Department of Biology was able to purchase an automated DNA sequencer, a state-of-the-art piece of equipment that forensic science students can train on in their lab courses.

Loyola’s own Princess Diana expert

Loyola’s history department boasts its very own expert on British history and the British royal family, court, and household—one whose reputation reaches across the pond. Professor Robert Bucholz was recently consulted by a lawyer working on the official inquest into Princess Diana’s death in a 1997 car crash in Paris.

The lawyer contacted Bucholz to ask about the possible composition of a jury. It appears a controversy was brewing over whether or not the judge must convene a jury composed of members of the royal household (as suggested by British law, since Diana lay in state within the limits of the Queen’s palaces before her funeral). The lawyer wanted Bucholz’s expert opinion on which members of the household were eligible to serve.

Ultimately, the judge presiding over the case ruled that it would be inappropriate to allow royal officials to sit on a jury, but Bucholz remains an internationally known Loyola expert.

2006 Award for Outstanding Mentoring

Judy Wittner has received the 2006 Award for Outstanding Mentoring from the Sociologists for Women in Society. Loyola is proud to have one of the University’s outstanding senior scholars recognized for her scholarship, teaching, and service to colleagues and students.

Personal touch increases Phonathon gift

When junior Phonathon volunteer Stefania Samayoa dialed a CAS alum and previous donor to solicit an annual gift, she was surprised and delighted when he pledged $10,000. CAS Dean Isiaah Crawford then placed a personal call to express appreciation for this commitment. The donor, in turn, was so grateful for Crawford’s response that he increased the gift to $15,000 and made arrangements to hand the donation over to the dean in person. Escorted by his niece, the generous alum arrived on the Lake Shore Campus with a $20,000 check—an unrestricted gift to CAS to be used at the dean’s discretion.

Philosophy prof delivers speech in Venezuela

Philosophy professor, David Schweickart, recently went to Caracas, Venezuela as an invited speaker on the topic of “Socialism for the 21st Century” at the Centro Felix Miranda as part of events celebrating the launch of the Venezuelan edition of Dercho a Decidir: Propuestas para el socialismo del siglo XXI.

A collection of translated essays recently published in Spain, Dercho a Decidir includes an article written by Dr. Schweickart, “Economic Democracy: A Worthy Socialism that Would Really Work,” as well as a postscript he provided for the Venezuelan edition. A number of government officials attended Dr. Schweickart’s presentation, which he delivered in Spanish, to a full house. He followed up with an extensive question and answer session.
**G R A D U A T E S C H O O L**

**Austin community after-school programs**

In the spring of 2006, Maryse Richards, PhD, and graduate student Rebecca Cornelli Sanderson partnered with community organizers, like Reverend Lewis Flowers of the Westside Minister’s Coalition, to persuade the Chicago Board of Education to commit $28,000 to fund after-school programs in the Austin community on Chicago’s west side. Due to Austin’s high crime rate during after-school hours, these programs will help prevent students from being exposed to violence in the area.

As part of her research for her master’s thesis, Cornelli Sanderson surveyed 600 parents and youth in the Austin area to assess their after-school needs. This research, along with the commitment of members of the community, ensures that the $4,000 allotted by the Board of Education to each of the seven K-8 schools in Austin will be used to fund effective after-school programming.

**Community Steward Fellowships**

The Graduate School awarded 17 Community Steward Fellowships this past December. Fellows are provided with opportunities to demonstrate how their graduate study and research connects with the public at large by partnering with community groups, grassroots organizations, and local businesses and industries to help address societal needs in the Chicago area.

Fellows draw from departments across the Loyola community, including criminal justice, history, psychology, and the Institute for Pastoral Studies. The current crop of fellows has been active in a variety of areas: safeguarding history for future generations at the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust, assisting troubled youth and their families in Juvenile Probation and Court Services, and advocating for humanitarian work across the globe at World Vision.

**S C H O O L O F B U S I N E S S A D M I N I S T R A T I O N**

**Marketing Club teams up with Ryne Sandberg**

Loyola’s Marketing Club has teamed up with former Chicago Cubs star Ryne Sandberg to provide marketing support for the hall-of-famer’s newest non-profit organization, Ryno Kid Care. Under the direction of clinical instructor Sara Gramata, the Marketing Club will assist with branding initiatives as well organizing, promoting, and identifying sponsors for the upcoming Ryno Kid Care kickball event, which will take place in mid-July at Millennium Park.

Housed in the School of Business Administration, the Marketing Club helps students develop their marketing skills through tours, professional meetings, events, and conferences with top advertising and marketing executives.

For more information on how to become involved with Loyola’s Marketing Club—non-marketing students and alums are welcome—please contact Sara Gramata at 312-915-6581 or sgramat@luc.edu. For more on Ryno Kid Care, visit rynokidcare.org.

**Peacemaking in an Age of Terror conference**

Arun Gandhi, grandson of India’s famous leader Mahatma Gandhi, will deliver the keynote address as Loyola hosts a conference on “Peacemaking in an Age of Terror.” A variety of experts and professionals will gather to explore the challenges of security and peacemaking in an age of international terrorism. The conference is scheduled for March 20-22.

Loyola faculty, staff, and students, as well as the general public, are invited to take part in the conference. Although main sessions will be held at the Lake Shore Campus, some events will take place at the Water Tower Campus.

For more information and conference registration, visit LUC.edu/ethics or contact Roni Rivera at rriver4@luc.edu or Andrew Kenealy at akeneal@luc.edu.

**Staff Council election week**

Loyola’s Staff Council (SC) elections will be held March 12-16 to fill the 10 open SC positions and the two vacant University Policy Committee posts. All staff members will have the opportunity to cast their ballots electronically via an Opinio ballot, which will be e-mailed on Monday, March 12. Voting ends March 16 at 5 p.m.; new members will be announced Friday, March 30.

Staff Council members serve two-year terms, attend monthly council meetings, and participate on committees, task forces, and/or special assignments. The average time commitment is approximately five hours per month, and though the SC is a volunteer organization, some SC-related duties may be conducted during office hours.

For more information about the election process, please visit LUC.edu/staffcouncil/sectelections.shtml or send an e-mail to StaffCouncil-LS@luc.edu.
Lake Shore Campus

CCIH Lecture—Science and Worship
All Loyola faculty, staff, and students are invited to attend “Science and Worship: God, Time, and the Vatican Observatory,” a lecture by William Stoeger, S.J. Fr. Stoeger is an astrophysicist on the staff of the Vatican Observatory, specializing in theoretical cosmology, high-energy astrophysics, and interdisciplinary studies relating to science, philosophy, and theology. The lecture is part of the Center for the Catholic Intellectual Heritage’s “Catholic Minds, Catholic Matters” lecture series. Contact Paul Voelker at catheritage@luc.edu for more information.

Crown Center Auditorium
Thursday, March 29; 7:30 – 10 p.m.

Water Tower Campus

Microsoft Access: Introduction
Microsoft Access is a relational database system widely used by professionals for information management. This workshop will introduce users to the system and demonstrate how to create a database and design tables and relationships from which queries, searches and selections, simple forms, and reports can be generated. The focus will be on developing queries and building reports. Contact Liz Van Kleeck at 773-508-7656 for more information.

The Microsoft Access sessions will be held on two separate days to accommodate faculty and staff work schedules. You MUST be able to attend both sessions. To register for this workshop, please e-mail training@luc.edu.

25 E. Pearson, Room 710
Thursday, March 29, and Friday, March 30; 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

LUMA

From Printing Press to Forbidden Books: Notes of a Rare Book Collector
Join LUMA for a discussion by Dr. Roberto Severino, professor emeritus of classical studies at Georgetown University and curator of Science and Faith between Obscurance and Censorship: Rare Books from the Libraries of Campania from XVI to XVIII Centuries. Reservations are strongly suggested; please reply to luma@luc.edu or 312-915-7630.

William B. and Marilyn M. Simpson Lecture Hall at LUMA
Tuesday, March 27; 6 p.m.

History Department Ranked 6th in Nation
According to a recent study, the faculty of Loyola’s Department of History ranks sixth among history departments in the U.S. based on faculty scholarly productivity. The rankings, released in the Jan. 12 issue of the Chronicle of Higher Education (“A New Standard for Measuring Doctoral Programs”), are based on the Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index, which rates faculty members’ scholarly output at nearly 7,300 doctoral programs around the country. (The index is partly financed by the State University of New York at Stony Brook and produced by Academic Analytics, a for-profit company.)

Loyola achieved a score of 1.75 in the index, which examines the number of books and journal articles published by each program’s faculty, as well as journal citations, awards, honors, and grants received. Despite having the smallest history department in the top 10, with only 24 faculty members, Loyola held its own against larger institutions such as Princeton, Harvard, and Yale, and even finished first in the category of books per faculty.

“This is a well-deserved recognition of extraordinary achievement, not only for our faculty members in history, but also for Loyola as a whole,” says Barbara Rosenwein, chair of the history department. “We always knew that we had an exceptional department here, and it is gratifying for all of us to see our view ratified by an objective external assessment.”

Lisa Madigan delivers keynote at School of Law event
Illinois Attorney General and Loyola law alumna Lisa Madigan (JD ’94) delivered the keynote address to a packed auditorium at Loyola’s Public Interest Law Reporter symposium “Juvenile Sex Offender Registration: Problem or Solution?” The event was held at the Loyola Law Center on Friday, January 26.

The forum brought together policymakers, criminal justice advocates, and treatment professionals to share ideas and promote discussion on how to best serve the interests and needs of both the public and the juvenile offenders.

Far Left: (left to right) Dean David Yellen, Nina De Los Santos-Sutton (PILR Editor-in-Chief), Melanie MacBride (PILR Symposium Editor), Attorney General Lisa Madigan, and Brittany Bohn (PILR Co-Symposium Editor).

Attorney General Lisa Madigan and Associate Dean Jim Faught at the Public Interest Law Reporter’s conference.

**John Allen Williams** (professor, political science) interviewed on Chicago’s low rating in disaster preparedness. *WLS-TV (ABC, Chicago)*, 1/2/07

**The Loyola University Museum of Art’s (LUMA) exhibition, The Missing Peace: Artists Consider the Dalai Lama**, mentioned on the radio program *Eight Forty-Eight*. *WBEZ-FM*, 1/4/07

**Kenneth Johnson** (professor, sociology) quoted in an article on the large number of Chicago residents moving to Wisconsin. *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, 1/6/07

**The School of Law** mentioned in a television report discussing law students’ plans to visit New Orleans and help victims of Hurricane Katrina. *WLS-TV (ABC, Chicago)*, *WBBM-TV (CBS, Chicago)*, 1/7/07

**Ann Meehan** (curator, education, LUMA) quoted in an article on Tashi Dellek: Afternoon of Tibetan Culture, an event held at the Water Tower Campus to celebrate Tibetan culture. *Chicago Tribune*, 1/8/07

**Alan Gitelson** (professor, political science) quoted in an article about Sen. Barack Obama’s potential presidential run. *Chicago Sun-Times*, 1/11/07

**Jeffry Mallow** (professor, physics) featured in an article on his Jewish humor, stand-up comedy, and new book, *Our Pal, God*. *Cleveland Jewish* 1/15/07

**Diane Geraghty** (professor, School of Law) quoted in an article on Cook County Board President Todd Stroger’s proposed budget calling for $31 million in public safety cuts. *Chicago Sun-Times*, 1/16/07

**Jonathan Wilson** (professor, theatre) interviewed on the *Front and Center* program about directing the play *Fences*. *WEDW-TV (PBS, New York)*, *WEDH-TV (PBS, Connecticut)*, 1/19/07 and 1/22/07

**John Boatright** (professor, School of Business Administration) quoted in a story on product recalls by Japanese automakers. *Investor’s Business Daily*, 1/19/07

**Philip Nyden** (director, CURL) quoted in an article on the popularity of the Edgewater neighborhood. *Metromix.com*, 1/20/07

**Al Gini** (professor, School of Business Administration) quoted in an article on the morality of tax deductions for charitable donations. *Chicago Sun-Times*, 1/21/07

**Jerry Norton** (professor, School of Law) quoted in a story on public hearings scheduled to discuss a proposed Yorkville landfill. *The Beacon News*, 1/22/07

**Keith Lambrecht** (associate professor, School of Business Administration) quoted in a feature article on the new vice president of marketing for the Chicago Sky and the challenges she will face in her position. *Crain’s Chicago Business*, 1/24/07

**Bruce Boyer** (clinical professor, School of Law) interviewed about a controversial adoption case involving the return of a 7-year-old child to the custody of her Chinese parents. *Good Morning America*, 1/24/07

**The School of Law** will receive $1.5 million over four years from the Helen V. Brach Foundation to establish a chair in constitutional law named after Raymond and Mary Simon. *Chicago Tribune*, 1/25/07

**Andrew Keyt** (executive director, Family Business Center, School of Business Administration) quoted in an article on the growing number of fathers handing the family business over to their daughters. *Daily Herald*, 1/28/07

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**photo ops**

**Top left:** (left to right) School of Law professors Neil Williams and Ruqaiijah Yearby with keynote speaker Robert Jordan (PhD ’99) and Dean David Yellen.

**Top right:** Books from the Incunabula (books printed prior to 1501) section at the rare book collection at the University Libraries. This section contains books printed from 1472 to 1496.

**Bottom left:** Season of Love Ecumenical Liturgy to celebrate our Creator’s love and our sacramental lives. (L-R) Rev. Philip Blackwell of the 1st United Methodist Church, Rev. John Costello, S.J., of Loyola, and Rabbi Byron Sherwin of Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies, pose with Chicago Chapel Choir Section Leaders from the 1st United Methodist Church.

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**this month another year**

**MARCH 14, 1962**

General Motors celebrated the production of its 75-millionth car.

**MARCH 17, 1762**

New York City hosted the first official St. Patrick’s Day parade when Irish immigrants in the British colonial army marched through city streets.

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**fun fact**

In 1908, Loyola’s first professional school, the School of Law, opened with 30 students as the Lincoln College of Law. That same year, Dumbach Hall, which originally served as home to Loyola Academy high school, was built on what is now the Lake Shore Campus.
March is women’s history month. Who would you like to honor?

James Garbarino, PhD / Psychology, College of Arts & Sciences

“My wife, Claire Bedard. By transcending the traditional boundaries of what it means to speak with ‘the feminine voice,’ she has taught me vital lessons about compassion, love, and honesty, about humanity and spirituality.”

Hannah Rockwell, PhD / Communication, College of Arts & Sciences

“My grandmother, Julia Dunham. She was a true pioneer. Raised on a Choctaw reservation, she emigrated during the Oklahoma dust bowl, bore eight children, and worked in California labor camps in cotton fields and peach groves from a little town in the Central Valley called Weedpatch. She was a model of strength, generosity, and hard work, whose belief in God, sense of humor, and ornery spirit made my life imaginable.”

Bren A. O. Murphy, PhD / Women’s Studies, College of Arts & Sciences

“I would like to honor the sisters and nuns who had a profoundly positive influence on American life. They built the country’s largest private school system and non-profit hospital system and made enormous contributions to child welfare, the Civil Rights Movement, and other social justice causes, often overcoming great odds including bigotry, the rigors of frontier life, and patriarchal opposition. In the words of Wall Street Journal reporter John Fialka, ‘They were America’s first feminists.’”

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