

# PHI KAPPA PHI FORUM

Winter 2011

## AWARDS EDITION

Showcasing 199 Phi Kappa Phi  
award recipients across the disciplines



Fellowships • Study Abroad Grants • Literacy Grants • Love of Learning Awards

# Phi Kappa Phi Forum and Its Relationship with the Society

**P**hi Kappa Phi Forum is the multidisciplinary quarterly magazine of The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. Each issue of the award-winning journal reaches more than 100,000 active members as well as government officials, scholars, educators, university administrators, public and private libraries, leaders of charitable and learned organizations, corporate executives and many other types of subscribers.

It is the flagship publication of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest, largest and most selective all-discipline honor society, with chapters on more than 300 college and university campuses across the country. Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 at the University of Maine and upwards of one million members spanning the academic disciplines have been initiated since the Society's inception. Notable alumni include former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, former NASA astronaut Wendy Lawrence, U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, writer John Grisham, YouTube co-founder/CEO Chad Hurley and poet Rita Dove. The Society began publishing what's now called *Phi Kappa Phi Forum* in 1915.

## Spring, summer and fall issues

The spring, summer and fall issues (usually mailed late February, late May and late August, respectively) feature a variety of timely, relevant articles from influential scholars, educators, writers and other authorities, oftentimes active Phi Kappa Phi members, who offer variations on an overall theme.

Notables to have contributed pieces include Ronald Reagan, 40<sup>th</sup> President of the United States; Myrlie Evers-Williams, civil rights trailblazer; Warren Burger, 15<sup>th</sup> Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court; Molefi Kete Asante, African-American studies groundbreaker; Sally Ride, former NASA astronaut; Ernest Gaines, fiction writer; and Geoffrey Gilmore, former director of the Sundance Film Festival.

*Phi Kappa Phi Forum* also encourages movers and shakers to speak for themselves through exclusive interviews. Q & As have run the gamut from public servants such as Lynne Cheney, former chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities, to famous artists such as playwright August Wilson to literary critics such as Stanley Fish.

(For other significant contributors, go online to [www.phikappaphi.org/forum](http://www.phikappaphi.org/forum).)

The spring, summer and fall issues further contain columns on fields such as education and academics, science and technology, and arts and entertainment in



The first organizational meeting of what came to be known as The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi took place in Coburn Hall (above) at the University of Maine in Orono, Maine, in 1897. The Phi Kappa Phi name was adopted on June 12, 1900. Although the national headquarters has been located in Baton Rouge, La., since 1978, the vast majority of the Society's historical documents are still kept at the founding institution.

addition to book reviews, poetry and humor. Plus, these issues compile member news, chapter updates and Society developments, along with letters to the editor, the Phi Kappa Phi bookshelf and general announcements of interest to keep readers abreast of Society programs and activities.

Through words and images, Web links and multimedia components, the magazine intends to appeal to the diverse membership of Phi Kappa Phi by providing thoughtful, instructive, helpful — and sometimes provocative — material in smart, engaging ways.

## Winter issue

The winter issue (mailed late November) celebrates those who win monetary awards from Phi Kappa Phi.

The Society distributes more than \$700,000 annually through graduate and undergraduate scholarships, member and chapter awards, and grants for local and national literacy initiatives, and *Phi Kappa Phi Forum* applauds the recipients in this edition, listing them all and spotlighting a few. (For more information about Phi Kappa Phi monetary awards, go online to [www.phikappaphi.org/awards](http://www.phikappaphi.org/awards).)

As an arm of the Society, *Phi Kappa Phi Forum* helps uphold the institution's mission: "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others." ■

# PHI KAPPA PHI FORUM

## Phi Kappa Phi Forum mission statement

*Phi Kappa Phi Forum*, a multidisciplinary quarterly magazine that enlightens, challenges and entertains its diverse readers, serves as a general-interest publication as well as a platform for The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.

## Phi Kappa Phi Forum

(Issn 1538-5914) is published quarterly by The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, 7576 Goodwood Blvd., Baton Rouge, La. 70806. Printed at R.R. Donnelley, 1160 N. Main, Pontiac, Ill. 61764.

©The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, 2011. All rights reserved. Nonmember subscriptions \$30 per year, domestic; \$45 outside the U.S. Single copies \$10 each; \$3.25 each for active, dues-paying members. Periodicals postage paid Baton Rouge, La., and additional mailing offices.

## A note on content

The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the staff of *Phi Kappa Phi Forum*, the Society staff, or the Board of Directors of The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.

## Submissions

Address material intended for publication to: Peter Szatmary, Editor *Phi Kappa Phi Forum* The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi 7576 Goodwood Blvd. Baton Rouge, La. 70806

## Reprint permission

Mail to: Permissions Department *Phi Kappa Phi Forum* 7576 Goodwood Blvd. Baton Rouge, La. 70806 Fax to: (225) 388-4900 Copying for other than personal or internal reference use without permission of *Phi Kappa Phi Forum* is prohibited.

## Phi Kappa Phi Forum staff

**Editor:** Peter Szatmary (800) 804-9880 ext. 42 [pszatmary@phikappaphi.org](mailto:pszatmary@phikappaphi.org)  
**Layout:** R Studios (freelance)  
**Proofreader:** Martha Allan (freelance)  
**Editorial consultant:** Traci Navarre Director of Marketing and Member Benefits (800) 804-9880 ext. 22 [tnavarre@phikappaphi.org](mailto:tnavarre@phikappaphi.org)

## Change of address

To request a change or correction to your mailing address, send your new address along with your old address, your name, phone numbers (cell, home, work), email address, member status and member number. Note: Your member number is the first multi-digit number from the left directly above your name on your mailing label. Send to: Change of Address The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi 7576 Goodwood Blvd. Baton Rouge, La. 70806

## Postmaster

Send address changes to: The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi 7576 Goodwood Blvd. Baton Rouge, La. 70806

## This Issue: Award Winners

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi distributed \$440,000 to 199 worthy applicants this year. Judges selected them from more than 2,500 submissions in four categories. The awards edition compiles and congratulates these standouts.

## On the Cover:

Left to right, top row to bottom: Paulo Horacio Medina Monterroso, Love of Learning Award; Jessica D. Webb, Study Abroad Grant; Nicolas Treat, Fellowship; Victoria Hui, Study Abroad Grant; Bryn E. McNery (blue shirt), Study Abroad Grant, seen with Hailey Alston (yellow shirt), a fellow University of Utah student who is a senior nursing major; Andrew T. Pham, Fellowship.

## 2 Fellowship Recipients • 6 Study Abroad Grant Recipients • 8 Literacy Grant Recipients • 10 Love of Learning Award Recipients

Recipient answers to questions that had been forwarded to winners were compiled, condensed and edited by Editor Peter Szatmary.



## 3 Connecting the Generations

*Email Q & A with Editor Peter Szatmary*

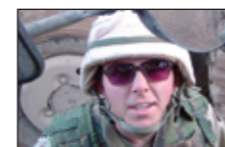
Fellowship benefactor John A. Yeakel and inaugural recipient Molly Maguire-Marshall answer mirror questions.



## 6 Sustaining a Dream

*By Amanda Celine Longoria*

Study Abroad Grant winner and architecture major Chantel Thuy An Pham tours European sites and honors her deceased brother.



## 9 Fighting Words

*By John T. Harding*

Army veteran Travis Martin uses his Literacy Grant to help publish volume two of a military-themed journal.



## 11 Endeavoring to End Hoarding

*By Danielle Eickenhorst*

Social worker and academic Norma D. Thomas researches the disorder with her Love of Learning Award.

## Phi Kappa Phi Awards Deadlines

**Fellowships:** Varies. Contact your chapter.  
**Study Abroad Grants:** April 1, 2012.  
**Literacy Grants:** April 1, 2012.  
**Love of Learning Awards:** June 30, 2012.  
**Scholar and Artist Awards:** Feb. 15, 2012. (Phi Kappa Phi confers \$1,000 honorariums biennially to one active member in each category who demonstrates the Society's ideals through achievement, learnedness and activities.)  
*For award applications, chapter directory, and more about award winners, go online to [www.PhiKappaPhi.org](http://www.PhiKappaPhi.org).*

## Coming Next Issue

The theme will be "Accountability." Potential topics for the spring 2012 edition include Ponzi schemes; free will from a philosophical standpoint; current U.S. healthcare and moral hazard; third-generation Holocaust survivors; the historical distinction between public and private higher education; literary translations; performance reviews.

## Poetry Contest for Active Members

*Phi Kappa Phi Forum* seeks original, previously unpublished poetry from active Society members for its spring 2012 edition that will explore the theme of "Accountability." One original, previously unpublished poem will be selected to appear in print as a complement to the scholarly articles and columns. The winning poet receives five free copies of the edition. The winner's photo and a short biography also will appear. Runners-up may be chosen for online. The poetry contest is open only to active Society members, published or unpublished. Submissions — one per entrant per issue — should be up to 40 lines long and must reflect the theme of the edition: "Accountability." Entry deadline is midnight, Dec. 4, only by email at [poetry@phikappaphi.org](mailto:poetry@phikappaphi.org). For complete rules and details, go online to [www.phikappaphi.org/poetry](http://www.phikappaphi.org/poetry).

## Board of Directors

**SOCIETY PRESIDENT**  
**William A. Bloodworth, Jr., Ph.D.**  
Office of the President  
Augusta State University  
2500 Walton Way  
Augusta, Ga. 30904-2200  
[wbloodwo@aug.edu](mailto:wbloodwo@aug.edu)

**SOCIETY PRESIDENT-ELECT**  
**Diane G. Smathers, Ed.D.**  
Emeritus College  
E-304 Martin Hall  
Clemson University  
Clemson, S.C. 29634  
[dsmthrs@clemson.edu](mailto:dsmthrs@clemson.edu)

**SOCIETY PAST PRESIDENT**  
**Robert B. Rogow, C.P.A., Ph.D.**  
Dean, College of Business and Technology  
Eastern Kentucky University  
Business & Technology Center 214  
521 Lancaster Ave.  
Richmond, Ky. 40475  
[robert.rogow@eku.edu](mailto:robert.rogow@eku.edu)

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE**  
**Curtis D. Black, Ph.D.**  
Department of Pharmacy Practice  
University of Toledo College of Pharmacy  
3000 Arlington Ave., MS 1013  
Toledo, Ohio 43614  
[curt.black@utoledo.edu](mailto:curt.black@utoledo.edu)

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR CHAPTER RELATIONS**  
**Timothy L. Hulse, Ph.D.**  
Dean, The Honors College  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
P.O. Box 843010  
Richmond, Va. 23284-3010  
[thulsej@vcu.edu](mailto:thulsej@vcu.edu)

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**  
**William J. McKinney, Ph.D.**  
Kettler Hall 169  
Indiana University-Purdue University-Fort Wayne  
2101 E. Coliseum Blvd.  
Fort Wayne, Ind. 46805  
[mckinnew@ipfw.edu](mailto:mckinnew@ipfw.edu)

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR MARKETING AND MEMBER BENEFITS**  
**H. Ray Sylvester, Ph.D.**  
University of the Pacific  
Eberhardt School of Business  
3601 Pacific Ave.  
Stockton, Calif. 95211  
[rsylvester@pacific.edu](mailto:rsylvester@pacific.edu)

**VICE PRESIDENT AT LARGE**  
**Yaw A. Asamoah, Ph.D.**  
College of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Indiana University of Pennsylvania  
201 McElhane Hall  
441 North Walk  
Indiana, Pa. 15705-1018  
[osebo@iup.edu](mailto:osebo@iup.edu)

**VICE PRESIDENT AT LARGE**  
**Judy A. Highfill**  
821 Craig Dr.  
Kirkwood, Mo. 63122-5712  
[juudith@me.com](mailto:juudith@me.com)

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENTS**  
**Jeffrey Harrison**  
Senior business administration major  
Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville  
55C 1280, Box 1160  
Edwardsville, Ill. 62026-1160  
[jefharr@siue.edu](mailto:jefharr@siue.edu)

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENTS**  
**Rodney Hughes**  
Doctoral student in higher education  
Pennsylvania State University  
400 Rackley Building  
University Park, Pa. 16802  
[rph144@psu.edu](mailto:rph144@psu.edu)

**ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
**Lourdes Barro**  
The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi  
7576 Goodwood Blvd.  
Baton Rouge, La. 70806  
[lbarro@phikappaphi.org](mailto:lbarro@phikappaphi.org)

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi bestows 57 \$5,000 Fellowships (some named\*) annually to active members entering their first year of full-time graduate or professional study. As of last year, Phi Kappa Phi also began distinguishing three additional applicants who display exceptional promise with \$15,000 Marcus L. Urann Fellowships, named after an undergraduate student founder of the Society. This year, 175 members entered the competition, an increase of 18 percent over last year. Including 2011, more than 2,500 recipients have earned Fellowships of one type or another totaling more than \$13 million since the program began in 1932.

\*It takes \$100,000 to endow a Fellowship. Unless otherwise indicated, school attended is also Phi Kappa Phi chapter.



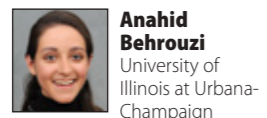
**Sarah R. Ahmad<sup>1</sup>**  
University of Utah School of Medicine  
Medical student  
**Fantasy career:** Fashion designer  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** Weber State University (WSU)  
**Undergraduate major:** Zoology  
**Satisfying community service:** Co-founding United in Service for Humanity, a community service organization led by students and alumni of University of Utah, Utah Valley University and WSU

**Grant Atkinson**  
Texas A & M University  
Pursuing a master's degree in aerospace engineering  
**Fantasy career:** To be the Carl Sagan of today  
**Undergraduate major:** Aerospace engineering  
**Influential person met:** NASA aerospace engineer and science fiction writer Jesco von Puttkamer



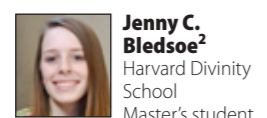
**Peter Baschnagel**  
University of Pittsburgh Katz Graduate School of Business  
Doctoral student in finance  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** Clarion University  
**Undergraduate major:** Economics, finance, and mathematics  
**Favorite author:** Kurt Vonnegut  
**Satisfying community service:** Habitat for Humanity

**Emily N. Beck**  
University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio  
Medical student  
**Career objective:** Pediatric private practice  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** University of Texas at Austin  
**Undergraduate major:** Plan II Honors  
**Satisfying community service:** Austin Children's Shelter  
**Question not asked you want to answer:** Personal goal? Balance my private and professional lives; be the best physician, mother, wife, daughter, sister and friend.



**Anahid Behrouzi**  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
M.S./Ph.D. student in structural engineering  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** North Carolina State University  
**Undergraduate major:** Civil engineering and Spanish language and literature  
**Influential person met:** Natural sciences writer and biomimicry innovator Janine Benyus  
**Best part of Phi Kappa Phi:** The sense of community and vast resources available

**Grace Pauline Benton**  
Will pursue a master's degree in Arab or Middle Eastern studies after a one-year Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship at the Jubilee School in Amman, Jordan  
**Career objective:** Work in the Levant region on cultural immersion programs that educate American students about the Middle East  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** University of Alabama at Birmingham  
**Undergraduate major:** International studies



**Jenny C. Bledsoe<sup>2</sup>**  
Harvard Divinity School  
Master's student in theological studies  
**Further educational plans:** Apply to Ph.D. programs in English literature or religious studies, focusing on late medieval England  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** University of Tennessee  
**Undergraduate major:** Honors religious studies, honors English literature



**Audrey Boerner**  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Pursuing an M.S. in hydrogeology  
**Career objective:** Pollution control agency  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** University of

Wisconsin-Eau Claire  
**Undergraduate major:** Geology  
**Memorable course:** Oceanography

**Matthew D. Bolian<sup>2</sup>**  
London School of Economics and Political Science  
Pursuing a master of science in regional and urban planning  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** United States Military Academy  
**Undergraduate major:** Comparative politics and foreign areas studies of Latin America  
**Advice for peers:** Wake up with a smile, work hard because you can, and remember that you are nothing without those around you.



**William P. Boyce<sup>3</sup>**  
University of Glasgow, Scotland  
M.Litt. student in religion, theology and culture  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** Florida State University  
**Undergraduate major:** History, creative writing and religious studies  
**Favorite author:** C. S. Lewis  
**Memorable course:** U.S. Catholic Writers  
**Most proud of:** Being a Fulbright (full grant) Scholar

**Jenna Lee Brashear**  
Vanderbilt University Peabody College of Education and Human Development  
M.P.P. student in education policy  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** University of Kentucky  
**Undergraduate major:** International studies and German  
**Favorite author:** J. K. Rowling

**Samuel R. Burns**  
University of Cambridge  
M.Phil. student in Egyptology  
**Career objective:** Professor of ancient Near Eastern languages and history  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** University of Michigan  
**Undergraduate major:** Philosophy, ancient civilizations and biblical studies  
**Most proud of:** Working full time as an undergraduate  
**Best part of Phi Kappa Phi:** *Phi Kappa Phi Forum*



**Malissa Candland-Levesque**  
George Washington University  
Pursuing a master of public administration  
**Career objective:** Researcher in intrastate conflict prevention and reconciliation  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** Utah State University  
**Undergraduate major:** Political science and anthropology  
**Favorite book:** *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë

**Brittany Carr**  
Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University  
Medical student  
**Career objective:** Primary care  
**Undergraduate major:** Biology and Asian studies  
**Favorite book:** *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini  
**Satisfying community service:** Organizing a local hair donation drive for cancer patients through the Pantene Beautiful Lengths campaign



**Amanda Clark**  
University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry  
Medical student  
**Career objective:** Interventional cardiologist  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** Elon University (EU)  
**Undergraduate major:** Biochemistry  
**Favorite author:** Atul Gawande  
**Most proud of:** Creating the EU chapter of Global Brigades, the world's largest student-led global health and sustainable development organization, and leading two medical brigades to Honduras



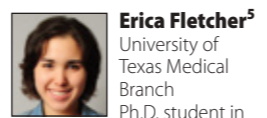
**Martin J. Demoret<sup>2</sup>**  
University of Nebraska College of Law at Lincoln  
Law student  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** University of Nebraska at Kearney (UNK)  
**Undergraduate major:** Psychology  
**Satisfying community service:** Founding a chapter of Campus Kitchen, an outreach of D.C. Central Kitchens, a culinary arts job training program that also feeds the hungry through donated food. UNK Campus Kitchen turns our cafeteria leftovers into meals for the needy.  
**Most proud of:** My beautiful wife of three years, who just completed nursing school

**Lauren Callaway Donnelly**  
Harvard Graduate School of Education  
Pursuing a master's in education  
**Career objective:** Middle school humanities teacher  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** University of Connecticut  
**Undergraduate major:** Middle school history  
**Influential person met:** Historian and political activist Howard Zinn

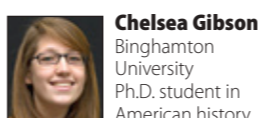
**Esteban Ferrero Botero**  
University of California, San Diego  
M.A. student in Latin American studies  
**Further educational plans:** Ph.D. in anthropology  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** Montana State University  
**Undergraduate major:** Anthropology  
**Favorite book:** *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho

**Megan L. Fisher<sup>4</sup>**  
University of Michigan  
Pursuing a master of social work  
**Career objective:** Immigration reform  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** Wright State University  
**Undergraduate major:** Social work  
**Role model:** Eleanor Roosevelt  
**Satisfying community service:** Songhor, Kenya, for HIV/AIDS support

**Elizabeth Fleming**  
American University  
Master's student in international politics  
**Career objective:** Foreign Service Officer  
**Fantasy career:** Beach volleyball player in the French Riviera  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** Marshall University  
**Undergraduate major:** International affairs and French  
**Memorable course:** British Imperialism  
**Satisfying community service:** Athletes in Action mission trip to Israel



**Erica Fletcher<sup>5</sup>**  
University of Texas Medical Branch  
Ph.D. student in medical humanities  
**Fantasy career:** Globetrotting filmmaker/social scientist/activist  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** University of Houston  
**Undergraduate major:** Anthropology and sociology; psychology  
**Role model:** My grandmother. She emigrated from Taiwan to Brazil and dedicated her life to giving her kids opportunities she never had.



**Chelsea Gibson**  
Binghamton University  
Ph.D. student in American history  
**Fantasy career:** Teach at a German university  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** North Georgia College & State University  
**Undergraduate major:** History  
**Favorite author/book:** *The Lost: A Search for Six of Six Million* by Daniel Mendelsohn

**Charles Hannon**  
Georgetown University School of Medicine  
Medical student  
**Career objective:** Born with a right clubfoot, I have been inspired to become a pediatric orthopedic surgeon and found an international organization that corrects clubfooted children in developing countries.  
**Satisfying community service:** Special Olympics  
**Phi Kappa Phi chapter:** Villanova University  
**Undergraduate major:** Biology

## Connecting the Generations

By Editor Peter Szatmary

*Fates align for University of New Mexico Phi Kappa Phi members John A. Yeakel and Molly Maguire-Marshall. The former, a retired professor of management, established the Deborah and John Yeakel Fellowship with his aforementioned wife earlier this year to support graduate education for nominees ideally from the state of New Mexico. The latter, winner of one of the school's outstanding senior awards in 2009, is the inaugural recipient of the Yeakel largesse. They overlap in other ways, too, evidenced in answers to analogous questions sent to them. Here are edited excerpts.*

**Purpose**

**Question:** John, you served in the Army before beginning higher education. Discuss this experience.

**Answer:** I was drafted into the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps during the Korean War. After completing the Army's pharmacy school, I spent my military service filling prescriptions at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio. The GI Bill gave me the opportunity of going to college at Penn State in 1954. Growing up, I had no relatives or close friends with college degrees or university experiences. Most importantly, there were no funds available to finance higher education. Thus, earning a college degree was not on my radar before getting drafted. Military service exposed me to a great diversity of people: draftees with no secondary or higher education, many with partial college backgrounds, others with degrees, medical doctors, etc. This opened up a wider vision of the world, and the GI Bill enabled me to enter it.

**Q:** Molly, you postponed graduate school to be a Peace Corps volunteer in Guayaquil, Ecuador, the past two years, working with poor urban youth and their families on HIV/AIDS education. Discuss your decision.

**A:** It was one of the easiest decisions I've ever made. I grew up listening to my parents' transformative stories of their Peace Corps service in Jamaica as young adults. Residing in the U.S. can be like living in a bubble; it's easy to take for granted basic freedoms and resources. Peace Corps volunteers go to some of the poorest rural and urban communities in the world. In trying to make a difference in a challenging environment, I hope I gave back half of the love and compassion that people showed me.

**Real world versus ivory tower**

**Q:** John, you interrupted graduate studies, master's at Penn State and doctoral at



John A. Yeakel and his wife Deborah (above) established a Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship in their name earlier this year.

Molly Maguire-Marshall, inaugural recipient of the Deborah and John Yeakel Fellowship, poses with 7-year-old Romina, granddaughter of her Ecuadorian host family in Guayaquil, Ecuador.

zations and youth development projects. My interest in Bangladesh was sparked by reading *Banker to the Poor*, the best-seller by 2006 Nobel Peace Prize laureate Muhammad Yunus, about the development of microfinance in rural Bangladesh. My interest in the region intensified in summer 2008 when I taught English and math to elementary students in Kolkata (Calcutta) in the bordering Indian state of West Bengal. Many students spoke Bengali at home, and when they invited me over, I was frustrated that my interaction with their mothers was limited because I could not

converse in Bengali. So I will also study Bengali language and culture to be able to engage with locals in increasingly meaningful ways. And like many U.S. citizens, I know little about Islam, and I will benefit from living in one of the world's most populous Muslim countries.

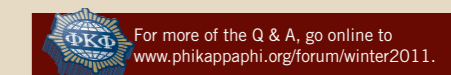
**Objectives**

**Q:** John, you taught at University of New Mexico from 1965 to 1990. What were your goals?

**A:** I mostly taught financial and managerial accounting theory and practice, corporation finance, and international accounting, always with an emphasis on the "why" and not simply on the "how."

**Q:** Molly, you earned a B.A. in speech and hearing sciences and women's studies from University of New Mexico in 2009. You will pursue an M.A. in international development at American University, School of International Service, upon return from Bangladesh, applying your Yeakel Fellowship to it. What are your goals?

**A:** To work in international community development with an urban focus on micro-finance, income generation or HIV/AIDS education. And to do so by "standing with" rather than "doing for" others. ■







Literacy Grants support endeavors that build and otherwise encourage the knowledge, confidence, and related benefits that derive from reading, math, science, and computers, among other fields. Fourteen grants up to \$2,500 apiece were awarded this year (out of 48 entries) to Phi Kappa Phi chapters and active members for ongoing projects or new initiatives that reinforce part of the Society's mission "to engage the community of scholars in service to others." Including 2011, more than 100 recipients have earned Literacy Grants totaling upwards of \$225,000 since the program began in 2003.

Parentetical school by grantee's name identifies Phi Kappa Phi chapter.

### Born to Read

This program provides a new book to each of the 2,000 babies born in the Cape Girardeau, Mo., area annually. Reading to babies increases the likelihood of reading at later ages, data show. Personnel from local hospitals give parents a Little Golden Book upon leaving with the newborn. Books contain a Society stamp and explanatory letter. Born to Read also won Literacy Grants in 2008 and 2009. (Mary Elizabeth Ambery, Southeast Missouri State University)

### Extra! Extra! Read All about It!

The Literacy Center at Augusta State University (ASU) expands tutoring services through Scholastic's ReadAbout software that builds reading comprehension, content area knowledge, and vocabulary and helps prepare tutees with special needs for state-mandated Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests. Tutees, 125 or more, come from a homeless shelter and the Literacy Center's waiting list. The grantee and facility also won Literacy Grants in 2009 for literacy tutorials and 2010 for a GED lending library. (Paulette Harris, ASU)

### First-Generation College Students

Last year, McKendree University (MU) started McKendree Firsts, a program offering its first-generation college students academic, financial and personal support. Accordingly, Phi Kappa Phi chapter members and teacher candidates assemble Bearcat Packs, canvas bags in MU's nickname, with Kathleen Cushman's *First in the Family: Advice about College from First-Generation Students*, a dictionary, and an insider's guide to college, plus activities and surveys, for these students and their families. (Bethany Hill-Anderson, MU, and 2009 Literacy Grant winner)

### Graphic Novel for Literacy

Roughly 60 percent of students at Flandreau (S.D.) Indian School, an off-reservation boarding high school founded in 1893, enroll at two or more grades below reading level. Many come from households without books. The school holds strategic reading classes for them. And all pupils and teachers read whatever they want for 20 minutes daily through Monitoring Independent Reading Practice. Graphic novels will be purchased through the grant. (Ndonza Kanza Hansen, South Dakota State University)

### Health and Wellness Kits

Students taking children's literature and community health courses at McKendree University (MU) create health and wellness literacy kits for Lebanon (Ill.) Grade School, a rural campus of 450 children. Kits include storybooks by the former MU students and handbooks by the latter MU students; activity boxes for teachers with, for instance, pedometers, jump ropes, and cookbooks; and similar family packs for parents. MU students visit classrooms to facilitate learning. (J. Alan Alewine, MU chapter past president)

### In-Home Daycare Outreach

In-home daycare providers don't necessarily have the resources to foster early literacy that larger, licensed daycare centers do. So monthly interactive story time sessions are provided for up to 80 primarily at-risk preschoolers at six to eight in-home daycare facilities. The grant funds books, CDs and manipulatives. Glendora (Calif.) Public Library and Azusa Pacific University professors and students collaborate on a project now in its fifth year. (Mary Pat Dodson, San Jose State University)

### Kiwanis and Chapter Literacy Project

Twice a year for the past two years, the University of Toledo (UT) Phi Kappa Phi chapter has partnered with the West Toledo Kiwanis and its student affiliate, UT Circle K, to donate books to 290 at-risk preschoolers in area Head Start and YMCA programs; personalize bookplates in the children's names; and read the works to them. The grant underwrites a third round. The literacy program began five years ago. (Patrick Michael Kilbane, UT)

### Literacy Play

This initiative utilizes developmental psychologist Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences about the diverse ways people process information. Alphabet literacy kits apply the eight intelligences Gardner conceptualized: picture books and puppets (linguistic), puzzles and science (logical/mathematical), 3-D projects (spatial), etc. Kits become part of a toy lending library and play resource center created at Bloomsburg University (BU) by the grantee last year. (Mary Katherine Waibel Duncan, BU chapter public relations officer and former president)

### One World, One Day

The project's title also is the title of Barbara Kerley's picture book that follows kids across the globe for 24 hours, revealing overall similarities amid differing

details. Michigan State University (MSU) students, faculty, staff and Community Language School personnel read it at five public libraries — then show a DVD featuring MSU participants translating it into other languages. The first 30 children at each library receive a free copy of the book. (Angelika Kraemer, MSU)

### School Transformation Project: Nicaragua

Backers travel to a small K-12 school in Condega, Nicaragua, for a week to help transform a book area into a real library. Supplies include bookshelves, seating, tables and other furniture, textbooks, teaching resources, Spanish-English books, additional reading material, DVDs, and computers. Teach a Child, Inspire a Life, a student club at The Ohio State University (OSU) partners in this outreach, which also includes building a protective wall on school grounds. (Amelia Baum, OSU)

### SOAR

The acronym stands for Scaffold, Optimize Learning, and Achieve Reading Success, a program offered by the William Paterson University (WPU) Reading Clinic, which provides one-on-one and small-group tutoring, remediation and enrichment for K-12 students and college freshmen. SOAR hosts free parental workshops to encourage reading at home; acquires resources for older, struggling readers; and expands the site's lending library. Tutors are certified teachers and reading specialists; WPU teacher candidates assist. (Salika Lawrence, Fordham University)

### Tanzania Literacy Project

The San Diego State University (SDSU) Phi Kappa Phi chapter shipped some 6,000 books and supplies to Mnyakongo Primary School in the village of Kongwa, Tanzania, in March 2010. The chapter and SDSU cosponsors also supported the building of a school library; representatives attended the installation that May. The grant paid for 500 textbooks in Swahili for a return visit last June in the next phase of this ongoing multifaceted effort. (Peter Larlham, SDSU)

### weeReaders

The explosion of ebooks reinforces the link between reading skills and computer literacy. Thus, about 25 at-risk children ages 5 to 9 attending an afterschool program at the Williamsport (Pa.) Salvation Army explore the adventures of reading and the possibilities of technology through Nook Color eReaders loaded with children's literature, thanks to a partnership with Locomotive College (LC), located a few blocks away. LC students mentor the kids. (Janet Hurlbert, LC chapter former president) ■

## Fighting Words

By John T. Harding

Some soldiers are unwilling to share their wartime experiences upon returning home. Others yearn to but don't know how.

That's why Army veteran Travis Martin, who completed two tours of duty in Iraq, will apply his Literacy Grant to help publish a journal of prose, poetry and artwork by and for military veterans and their families.

"My generation is more open to emotions," said Martin. But, he continued, it can be difficult to release pent-up battle memories. Writing provides a type of reckoning and therapy, he said.

Martin should know. Dropping out of community college after two weeks in 2002, the 18-year-old joined the Army. He was assigned to a transportation company in Mannheim, Germany, and served in Iraq in 2003 for nine months and in 2005 for a year. Duties included driving a truck in combat areas and operating a machine gun. Martin achieved the rank of sergeant before honorable discharge in 2006.

He then finished community college, graduated summa cum laude from Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) in 2009 as an English major and earned a master's degree in English there last spring. Along the way, he was student vice president of the EKU Phi Kappa Phi chapter. This fall he began a Ph.D. program in literature at University of Kentucky.

When Martin returned stateside, "I dealt with many of the issues faced by today's student veterans," he said. But "despite the best efforts of the Department of Veterans Affairs, I had to figure out ways to deal with my issues on my own."

Studying war literature was a prime coping mechanism. Reflections from



Army veteran Travis Martin recently (above) and in Balad, Iraq, on Jan. 19, 2004, during his first deployment.



soldier/writers such as American novelist Tim O'Brien (Vietnam War) and English poet Wilfred Owen (World War One) "transcend generations," asserted Martin, who needed "three or four years" to come to grips with the action he saw in Iraq. And since there are many literary and research journals on war literature, he thought, "Why not one of our own?"

So as an undergraduate, "I cofounded the student organization EKVETS (Veterans Education and Transition Support)," which assists the acclimation to civilian life. Out of that came *The Journal of Military Experience, Vol. 1*, which Martin published in April. Volume 2, partly underwritten by the Literacy Grant, comes out next year.

To place orders for either, at \$15 apiece, go online to <http://va.eku.edu/jme>, the website of the EKU Veterans Affairs, which is a partner of EKVETS. All proceeds are split evenly between the next volume of the anthology and EKU's "Operation Veteran Success" initiative.

To submit entries for consideration for

Vol. 2, email Martin at [travis.martin@uky.edu](mailto:travis.martin@uky.edu). He is particularly looking for scholarly articles and artwork.

Writing, Martin pointed out, can be "a way to get past the avoidance of dealing with post-traumatic stress." *The Journal of Military Experience* is designed to help veterans do just that. ■



John T. Harding (Montclair State University), a business and economics columnist for this magazine and regular contributor to the annual awards edition, retired from *The Star-Ledger* daily newspaper in Newark,

N.J., in 1997 after 27 years as a business and economics writer, copy editor, and wire editor, among other roles. He also was an adjunct instructor in economics, journalism, and English at Montclair State University, his alma mater (B.A. in English and linguistics; M.A. in economics), from 1997 to 2007 and in journalism at Rutgers University from 1997 to 2000. Email him at [j.t.harding@comcast.net](mailto:j.t.harding@comcast.net).

## 2011 Study Abroad Recipients (continued from page 7)



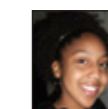
**Kate Tankel**  
University of Missouri, Kansas City  
Junior, Spanish and secondary education-Spanish major  
**Study abroad:** Fall term at La Universidad de Belgrano, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
**Satisfying community service:** YoungLives Camp for teen mothers and their children



**Kyle Thompson**  
Oregon State University  
Junior, electrical and computer engineering and international studies major  
**Study abroad:** Six weeks last summer at University of Costa Rica, San Jose  
**Fantasy career:** Design computers or improve wireless communication

**Austin Warren**  
Western Kentucky University  
Senior, archaeology and Spanish major  
**Study abroad:** A month apiece in Ecuador and Peru last summer, service-learning in rural communities in the highlands and archaeological fieldwork in the Atacama Desert in Moquegua, respectively  
**Career objective:** Bioarchaeology  
**Role model:** I look up to my father

because 1) he is really tall and 2) he is extremely hard-working.



**Jessica D. Webb**  
North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University  
Junior, chemistry major  
**Study abroad:** Three weeks last summer at the Danish Institute for Study Abroad, Copenhagen

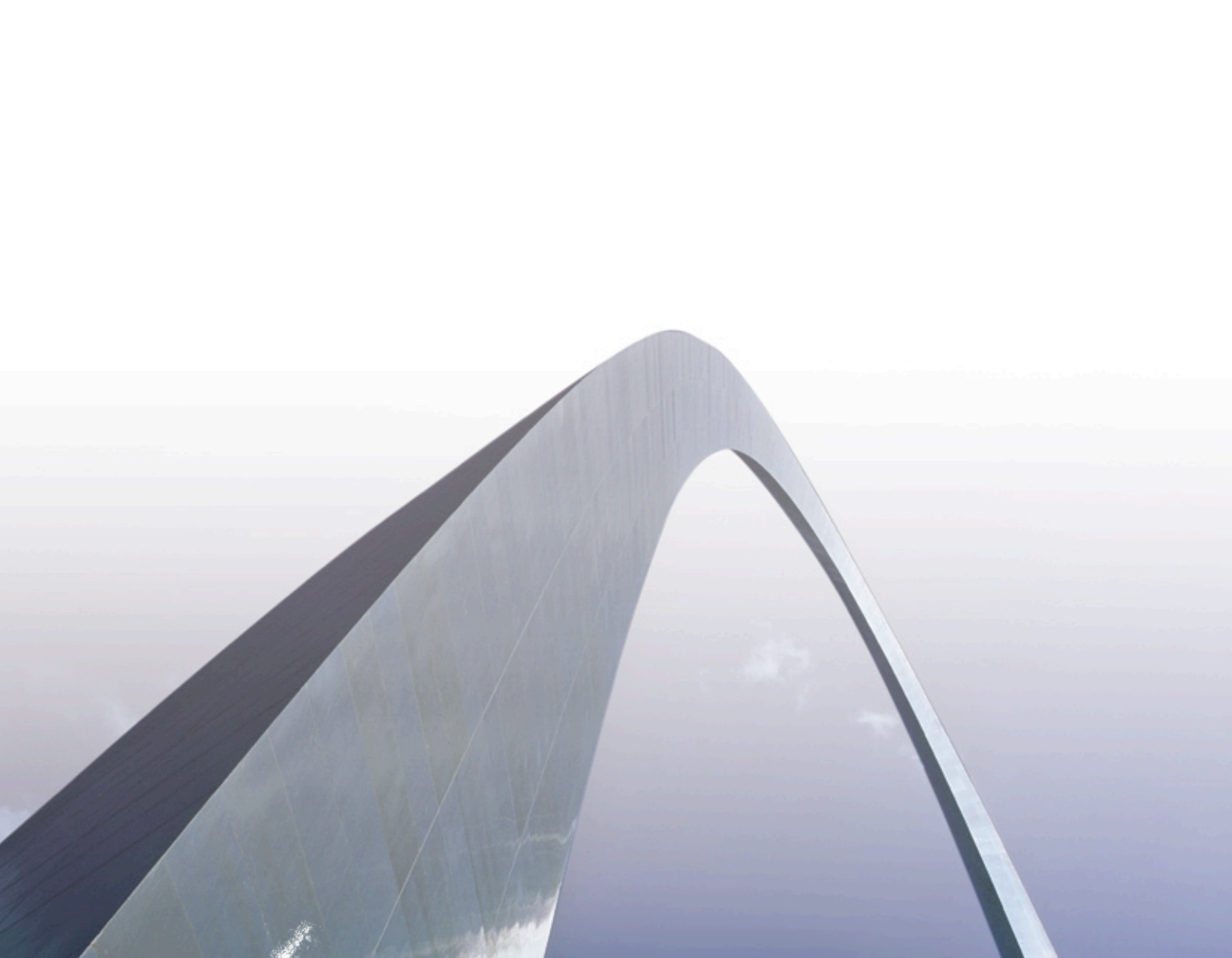
**Further educational plans:** M.D./Ph.D.  
**Favorite author:** Jodi Picoult

**Avi Wolf**  
University of Michigan\*  
Senior, chemical engineering major  
**Study abroad:** Six weeks last summer at Technical University of Berlin, Germany, researching wood gasification and pursuing German language and culture  
**Further educational plans:** Ph.D. ■









Gateway Arch design by Eero Saarinen © St. Louis Convention & Visitors Commission



# Looking for Leaders



**Exercise the honor of democracy!**

**Phi Kappa Phi seeks nominations for its Board of Directors!**

Recent changes in bylaws have made it possible for all active Phi Kappa Phi members to take part in the governance of the Society. Did you know that any active member can nominate candidates from the Society's august ranks to serve two-year terms as President-Elect, Vice President for Finance, Vice President for Marketing and Member Benefits, Vice President for Fellowships and Awards, and two Vice Presidents at Large? You can! Active members also will be able to vote on the two Vice Presidents at Large.

For position descriptions and nomination forms, go online to [www.PhiKappaPhi.org/convention2012](http://www.PhiKappaPhi.org/convention2012). Board candidates must be active members, and nominations must be received by Feb. 24, 2012. Voting for the two VPs at Large is open to all active members and will take place electronically April 2-20, 2012. The remaining elected offices will be voted on by chapter delegates at the 2012 convention, which will be held Aug. 9-11 in St. Louis, Mo.

The 2012 convention will feature a keynote speech from former astronaut and Phi Kappa Phi member Wendy Lawrence, presentations from Society award winners, roundtable breakfasts, training workshops, and much more. All active members are invited to attend the biennial event. Look for more information in forthcoming Monthly Mentions emails and in the next *Phi Kappa Phi Forum*.