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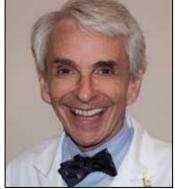
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Newspaper of the University of Pittsburgh

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### Professors Davidson and South-Paul, Alum Gitlin, and Residency Alum Offit Elected to IOM







Jeannette E. South-Paul



Jonathan D. Gitlin

Paul A. Offit

### By Anita Srikameswaran

Two University of Pittsburgh faculty members, an alumnus of Pitt's School of Medicine and School of Arts and Sciences, and a medical researcher who completed his residency training at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC have been elected to the Institute of Medicine (IOM), an honor that is considered among the highest in the field

The IOM, during its 41st annual meeting on Oct. 17, announced the election of the following Pitt people:

- Nancy E. Davidson, Pitt professor of medicine, Hillman Professor of Oncology, associate vice chancellor for cancer research, and director of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute and UPMC Cancer Centers;
- Jeannette E. South-Paul, Pitt's UPMC Andrew W. Mathieson Professor and chair,
- Department of Family Medicine;
   Jonathan D. Gitlin (A&S '74, MED '78), the James C. Overall Professor and Chair of Pediatrics, Vanderbilt University

School of Medicine, who serves on the Pitt medical school's Board of Visitors; and

· Paul A. Offit, chief of the Section of Infectious Diseases and director of the Vaccine Education Center at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and professor of pediatrics in the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine. Offit returned to campus as a symposium presenter during Pitt's three-day 2005 observance of the 50th anniversary of the

announcement that the Pitt research team's Salk polio vaccine was "safe, effective, and

"Each of these new members stands out as a professional whose research, knowledge, and skills have significantly advanced health and medicine, and their achievements are an inspiration."

—Harvey V. Fineberg, 10M President

In a statement, IOM President Harvey V. Fineberg said, "Each of these new members stands out as a professional whose research, knowledge, and skills have significantly advanced health and medicine, and their achievements are an inspiration."

Current IOM members select new ones from the health sciences, medicine, and public health in a rigorous process, and election requires a commitment to volunteer on boards and for other activities carried out by IOM in its role as an inde-

pendent, science-based advisor on health

Continued on page 4

### African Diaspora's Challenges, Opportunities Are Focus of Pitt International Conference Nov. 3-6

By Patricia Lomando White

Richard Wright's 1954 novel Black Power opened a new chapter in the long history of political and intellectual dia-

logue across the African Diaspora—the dispersal of people of African descent throughout the world—one that revealed both the convergences and ruptures among people of African descent, both on the African continent and in Diaspora.

To further that dialogue, the University of Pittsburgh World History Center will host the Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora's (ASWAD) 6th Biennial Conference, titled "African Liberation and Black Power: the Challenges of Diasporic Encounters Across Time, Space, and Imagination." The four-day event will take place Nov. 3-6 at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association, 4215 Fifth Ave., and Pitt's University Club.

Conference pre-**Conference presenters will** examine the Diasporic dimensions and articulations of Black Power with special emphasis on Africa Europe, the Caribbean, Latin America, and Asia the limitations of Black by tracing the genealogies Power scholarship. Among the 270 preof the concept of Black

Power and challenging the

limitations of Black Power

scholarship.

senters will examine the Diasporic dimensions and articulations of Black Power with special emphasis on Africa, Europe, the Caribbean, Latin America, and Asia by tracing the genealogies of the concept of Black Power and challenging

senters are Maulana Karenga, creator of Kwanzaa and professor of Africana Studies at California State University, Long Beach, who will take part in a roundtable titled "Rethinking





Malcolm X: Imagination and Power, Biography and Historiography."

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### George A. Davidson Jr. And David B. Fawcett Jr. **Recommended for Election As Pitt Emeriti Trustees**

The University of Pittsburgh Board of Trustees Nominating Committee recommended that Pitt alumni George A. Davidson Jr. (ENGR '61), retired chair of major energy producer and transporter Dominion Resources Inc., and David B. Fawcett Jr. (LAW '53), senior partner in the Pittsburghbased law firm Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote, each be elected an emeritus trustee. The full board will act on the committee's recommendations at its Oct. 28 fall meeting.

ing on the actions taken by the Nominating Committee, University of Pittsburgh Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg stated, "During their decades of dedicated service to the University, George Davidson and David Fawcett have contributed significantly to Pitt's progress in a range of ways, from their membership on the Board of Trustees and on Boards of Visitors, to their visible presence as Pitt ambassadors in the community, to their

In comment-



George A. Davidson Jr.



David B. Fawcett Jr.

generous philanthropy. Through George and Dave's election as emeriti trustees, the Board respectfully acknowledges their past contributions and ensures that the University will continue to benefit from their service and wise counsel.'

Biographical information on Davidson

and Fawcett follows.

George A. Davidson Jr. joined the University's Board of Trustees in 1987 and has served continuously as a trustee for the past 24 years. He has been an active and supportive Board member who has provided advice and counsel to six Board chairs and three Pitt chancellors. He served on six standing committees—Academic Affairs/ Libraries, which he chaired for 10 years (2001-11); Affirmative Action; Compensation; Executive; Investment; and Property and Facilities, which he chaired for five years (1988-93)—and provided leadership on two subcommittees. He chaired the Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business/College of Business Administration Board of Visitors for 15 years (1996-2011) and has served on that visiting board since 1987. He currently serves as vice chair of the Swanson School of Engineering Board of Visitors. In addition, he served his alma mater as a University Director of the UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside Board.

A generous alumnus of the University, Davidson has established the George A. Davidson Engineering Laboratory for Freshmen, the George A. Davidson Jr. Unit Operation Laboratory in the Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering,

Continued on page 3

# BrieflyNoted

#### Linda Lane to Speak Nov. 4 At Pitt's Center on Race and **Social Problems**

The University of Pittsburgh Center on Race and Social Problems (CRSP) continues its Buchanan Ingersoll and Rooney PC Fall 2011 Speaker Series Nov. 4 with a noon lecture by Linda Lane. superintendent of the Pittsburgh Public Schools

Lane's talk, titled "Equity Is NOT an Office," will take place in the School of Social Work

Conference Center on the 20th floor of the Cathedral of Learning. It is free and open to the public, and registration is not required; lunch will be provided. For more information, call 412-624-7382.

In December 2010, Lane was named superintendent of the PPS, a district with more than 26,000 students and 64 schools. Since her appointment, Lane has

invested in Pittsburgh's teachers and school leaders as the catalysts for change in the schools. She was recognized nationally for her Empowering Effective Teachers plan—one of only four such programs selected for funding last year by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Lane joined the PPS in 2006 as deputy superintendent for instruction, assessment, and accountability. During her tenure as deputy superintendent, the district achieved Adequate Yearly Progress for the first time in its history. Prior to her move to Pittsburgh, she served as deputy superintendent of the Des Moines Public Schools and was the first woman from an underrepresented population to hold the position of chief operating officer.

Lane holds a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Iowa as well as a master's degree in education administration and a doctorate in education from Drake University. A lifelong educator, Lane was an elementary school teacher from 1971 to 1982.

CRSP's annual Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC Fall Speaker Series provides an opportunity for faculty, students, and members of the community to engage in race-related discussions of mutual interest.

-Kerry Byrnes

### Pitt Goes Green for **Office-Supplies Delivery**

Four tons of waste. 15,000 boxes. That's the amount of waste the University of Pittsburgh expects to save this academic year through Office Depot's new GreenerOffice delivery program.

As of August, more than 3,700 businesses, governments, and universities in Pittsburgh have been receiving their Office Depot supplies in reusable bags or bins rather than paper bags or corrugated boxes. Both types of transporting containers are made from postconsumer recycled materials and are used by carriers to transport the office supplies from delivery trucks to customers' offices.

The University, for some time now, has been looking for whatever processes or steps that can be taken to becoming greener and more sustainable," said Carl DePasquale, procurement specialist in Purchasing Services.

Even though the green delivery program

costs the same as regular delivery, savings will be seen in sustainable ways. GreenerOffice eliminates the need for Office Depot to cut down nearly 20,000 trees a year for necessary wood-based resources for corrugated boxes and bags.

Nationwide, the program is expected to replace 4.5 million pounds of cardboard boxes with less than a million pounds of

—В. Rose Huber



The University of Pittsburgh Slovak Studies Program and the Pitt Student Slovak Club will present the 21st Annual Slovak Heritage Festival from 1 to 5 p.m. Nov. 6 in the Commons Room of the Cathedral of Learning.

The free event will include performances by such local artists as the Pittsburah Slovakians, the Slavjane Folk Ensemble, the Pittsburgh Area Slovaks, and the University of Pittsburgh Carpathian Ensemble. Also among the festival's many performers are returning professional Slovakian artists The Singing Revil'ak Family and Jozef Ivaska.

The Singing Revil'ak Family has received numerous awards in nationwide laureate folklore competitions in Bratislava and Zilina, Slovakia. The ensemble has produced many CDs, which will be available for purchase at the festival. Ivaska, the other featured Slovakian artist, also will have his CDs available. Ivaska, who is making his fifth concert tour of the United States, performs with the Metropolitan Operetta Theatre in Baden, Austria. Among his other accomplishments was discovering the rock group Sirius in the early '80s.

The festival also will feature cultural displays and lectures, ethnic foods and pastries, and

> vendors with merchandise from Slovakia and neighboring European countries.

For more information, contact Christine Metil at 412-624-

5906 or metil@pitt.edu.

—Lara Stasenko

### E. Maxine Bruhns Sets Oct. 31 **Ghost Watch**

As Halloween nears, E. Maxine Bruhns is preparing her spot—and her spooky stories.

Bruhns, director of Pitt's Nationality Rooms Program, has made a ghoulish tradition of staking out a spot in the Cathedral of Learning's Early American Room on Halloween night. The affinity stems from Bruhns' notion that Room 328 is haunted by her grandmother, Martha Jane Poe (who was related to Edgar Allan Poe).

Bruhns will preside over this year's Ghost Watch from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 31, in Room 328, It's free

and open to the public. Bruhns may be joined by a special cat, Catula, who dresses for the evening in a Dracula cape. The creature is featured in a book of the same name, written by Melissa Haas, a Pitt alumnus (A&S '02) and personal friend of Bruhns.

Catula

Room 328's ghostly occurrences began in the 1990s after Bruhns donated some of her grandmother's belongings, including a wedding quilt and a photo frame, to the room. Bed covers were pulled down when no one had been in the room; corn hanging on the fireplace fell mysteriously two times; a baby cradle began rocking on its own.

Bruhns will recount the sightings and answer questions, but no doubt visitors' eyes and ears will be attuned to more ephemeral occurrences.

-Jane-Ellen Robinet



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tChronicle \*\*

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Memorializing Alum John Woodruff's 1936 Olympic Gold Medal







An interactive display showing the Gold Medal won by University of Pittsburgh alumnus and track star John Woodruff at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin was unveiled Oct. 14 on the first floor of Pitt's Hillman Library. University Library System Director and Hillman Librarian Rush Miller and Pitt Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs Robert Hill hosted the event; Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg and other Pitt officials delivered remarks. 1. From left, Chancellor Nordenberg; John Woodruff Jr., a New York City attorney; and Miller. 2. From left, Melanie Hartsell, a Grand Prairie, Texas, teacher whose eighth-grade math class calculated that Woodruff set a world record when he won an 800-meter race in 1937 against the world-record holder Elroy Robinson. Amateur Athletic Union officials revoked Woodruff's record, claiming that the track was not of regulation length.

She is accompanied by her daughter, Nicole Hartsell. 3. From left, Alonzo Webb, head coach of Pitt's Track and Field team; Chancellor Nordenberg; Woodruff Jr.; Pitt trustee Herbert P. Douglas Jr. (EDUC '48, '50G), a bronze medalist in the long jump at the 1948 Olympics; and Steve Pederson, Pitt athletic director. 4. Roger Kingdom (CGS '02), winner of two Olympic gold medals (1984 and 1988) in the 100 meter hurdles, talks with Ashley Corum, Big

East champ in the triple jump (left), and Ashley Woodford, who holds Pitt's school record in the 4x100 event. **5.** From left, Woodruff Jr. and Hill flank the

interactive display.

6 • From left, Kingdom,
Arnold M. Sowell Sr. (BUS
'57), who set an indoor
world record for the 880yard run in 1957, outrunning
gold medalist Tom Courtney;
and Douglas.





TOS BY JIM BURKE/CIDDE

### Davidson and Fawcett as Pitt Emeriti Trustees

"During their decades

of dedicated service to

the University, George

Davidson and David

Fawcett have contrib-

uted significantly to

Pitt's progress in a

range of ways ..."

—Mark A. Nordenberg

Continued from page 1

the George A. Davidson Jr. MBA Endowed Scholarship Fund, and the George Davidson Graduate Fellowships in Chemical Engineering. He is a Golden Life Member of the Pitt Alumni Association, a member of the Cathedral of Learning Society and

the Brackenridge Circle, and a volunteer for the Swanson School of Engineering, including service as cochair of the engineering school's capital campaign.

capital campaign.

In 2003, the American
Gas Association presented
Davidson with its Distinguished Service Award, the
association's highest honor,
for his contributions to the
natural gas industry. His
contributions have also been
recognized by the University
of Pittsburgh: He is a Legacy
Laureate, the recipient of the
Distinguished Alumni Award

from the Swanson School, and the recipient the Bicentennial Medallion of Distinction. Most recently, the Board of Trustees recognized Davidson's service as a trustee with the Trustee Medallion.

**David B. Fawcett Jr.** has been actively involved in the life of the University of Pittsburgh for nearly four decades through the Pitt Alumni Association, the Board of Trustees, and two Boards of Visitors. During his tenure as an Alumni Trustee (1997-2005), he was a member of the Athletics Committee, the Property and Facilities Committee, and the Boards of Visitors for the Schools of Medicine and Law. He also was a University Director of the UPMC Board of Directors and its Executive Committee and a University Director of the UPMC Presby-

terian Shadyside Board. Most recently, he has served the University as a Community Representative to the Board of Trustees Athletics and Health Sciences committees, and he currently serves as a member of the School of Law Board of Visitors.

A Charter Lifetime Member of the Pitt Alumni Association, Fawcett is also a Lifetime Member and past president of the School of Law Alumni Association and a volunteer for various Pitt law school alumni activities. In 1991, the School of Law honored him with its Distinguished Alumni Award. The construction of the Fawcett Student Commons in the Barco Law Building was made possible by his generosity in honor of the Fawcett

family graduates of the School of Law, including Fawcett, his father, and his two sons

A prominent Bar leader, Fawcett served as president of the Pennsylvania and Allegheny County Bar Associations and was a member of the American Bar Association's House of Delegates for 10 years. He is the recipient of the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Gilbert Nurick Award, the Civil Litigation Section of the Allegheny County Bar Association's Professionalism Award, and the Allegheny County Academy of Trial Lawvers' Distinguished Service Award. In addition, Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote instituted the David B. Fawcett Pro Bono Award, named after Fawcett in recognition of his own commitment to public service and in celebration of his 60th year with the firm.

## Details Unveiled for Pitt Jazz Seminar, Concert Nov. 1-5



Maurice Brown

By Sharon S. Blake

One of the region's premier jazz events celebrates 41 years this November, as the University of Pittsburgh hosts its annual Pitt Jazz Seminar and Concert Nov. 1-5.

Founded in 1971 by Pitt Jazz Studies Program director Nathan Davis, the event features a stellar group of international jazz musicians, who will hold free on-campus lecture/demonstrations, visit area schools and community venues, and convene for the annual concert at 8 p.m. Nov. 5 in Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland.

Musicians taking part this year include Pitt alumnus Geri Allen (A&S '83G), piano; Randy Brecker, trumpet; Maurice Brown, trumpet; Billy Cobham, drums; Larry Coryell, guitar; Quamon Fowler, tenor saxophone; Curtis Fuller, trombone; Donald Harrison, Jr., alto saxophone; and Abraham

Laboriel, bass. They will perform under the direction of Davis.

Details on Pitt Jazz Week events follow. **Jazz Concert** 

The Nov. 5 concert is a one-of-a-kind performance, given the diverse playing styles and the show's impromptu nature. Tickets are \$18; students with a valid ID pay \$8. Tickets are available through ProArtsTickets at 412-394-3353 or www. proartstickets.org, or at the William Pitt Union (WPU) box office, Oakland. Student tickets are only available at the WPU. Tickets will be on sale the evening of the concert at Carnegie Music Hall for \$20 and \$10, respectively, cash only. Transactions at the WPU box office on Nov. 5 also are cash only.

Continued on page 6

# NewsofNote

#### Pitt to Offer PhD In Film Studies

The University of Pittsburgh Film Studies Program in the School of Arts and Sciences will offer a newly created PhD degree in Film Studies, beginning Fall 2012. The interdisciplinary and interdepartmental degree stresses the history, theory, and aesthetics of international cinema, video, television, and new media.

"The new interdepartmental PhD allows Pitt to take advantage of its highly published and renowned graduate faculty in Film Studies as well as its substantial and stimulating course offerings in order to attract students dedicated to pursuing media studies as their primary doctoral field," said Lucy Fischer, Distinguished Professor of English and Film Studies at Pitt.

While students in the degree program will earn Film Studies PhDs, granted by Film Studies, each student also will be a full member of one of six associated departments—
English, French, German, Hispanic Languages and Literatures, History of Art and Architecture, or Slavic Languages and Literatures—fulfilling the respective department's requirements, many of which will overlap with those of Film Studies.

The name of the associated department will appear as an Area of Concentration on the student's transcript, giving the graduating student a PhD in Film Studies as well as expertise in a secondary area.

For more information about the Film Studies PhD, visit www.filmstudies.pitt. edu/graduate/phd.html; for information on the Film Studies Program, visit www. filmstudies.pitt.edu/graduate/phd.html or contact Lucy Fischer at lfischer@pitt.edu.

—Patricia Lomando White

#### Pitt Center Redesignated a European Union Center of Excellence

The University of Pittsburgh European Union Center of Excellence (EUCE) has again been redesignated a European Union Center of Excellence by the Delegation of the European Union to the United States.

The renewed designation includes a grant totaling 300,000 euros (about \$403,000), which will help fund the center and its activities through 2014.

The EUCE promotes the study of the European Union and EU-U.S. relations. Through this grant and University funding, the center supports teaching programs, scholarly research, and outreach activities in Pittsburgh and throughout Western Pennsylvania.

The EUCE is part of a dual center, joined with the European Studies Center (ESC) as part of the University Center for International Studies. The EUCE/ESC is directed by Pitt political science professor Ronald H. Linden. Established in 1998 in the

first national competition, Pitt's EUCE has successfully received renewal with each subsequent competition. Ten institutions were designated this year, including the University of California at Berkeley and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

The European Commission funds the EUCE initiative as part of a broader effort to promote people-to-people ties across the Atlantic.

For more information about Pitt's EUCU, visit www.ucis.pitt.edu/euce.

—Audrey M. Marks

#### **ACOUSTICALLY ISOLATED LABS**



Officials from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) toured first-phase renovations for a state-of-the-art laboratory in the Nuclear Physics Laboratory (NPL) Oct. 6. The site, dug four feet lower than the previous basement floor, is being prepared to house two acoustically isolated experimental chambers for research conducted by physics and astronomy professor Jeremy Levy and his colleagues. These experimental chambers will provide Levy with an environment isolated from stray noises and extraneous radio frequencies, allowing researchers to look at materials that show promise for quantum computing. The construction, along with two other projects, is being funded through a \$32 million grant from NIST, which has funneled monies from the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act into research and technology initiatives. Levy's project completion date is slotted for summer 2012, while the additional laboratories will be built by spring 2014. When finished, there will be 75,000 square feet of new lab space in Allen Hall, NPL, and Old Engineering Hall, as well as an interdisciplinary machine shop. Front row, from left: David Turnshek, chair of Pitt's Department of Physics and Astronomy; Patricia E. Beeson, Pitt provost and senior vice chancellor; Levy; and George Klinzing, Pitt vice provost for research and principal investigator for the NIST program. Back row, from left: Michael Diestel, NIST program officer; and N. John Cooper, Pitt's Bettye J. and Ralph E. Bailev Dean of Arts and Sciences.

# Davidson, South-Paul, Gitlin, And Offit Elected to IOM

Continued from page 1

issues to decision makers and the public. The IOM was established in 1970 as the health branch of the National Academy of Sciences.

Davidson, who came to Pitt in 2009, is an internationally renowned expert in breast cancer research and treatment. Her research focuses on the role of hormones, particularly estrogen, on gene expression and tumor growth in breast cancer. She also has guided several important national clinical trials of potential new therapies, including the use of chemoendocrine therapy for premenopausal breast cancer and antiangiogenesis therapy for advanced disease.

She received her bachelor's degree from Wellesley College and medical degree from Harvard Medical School.

South-Paul studies maternal and child health as well as fitness, and she maintains an active family practice, including maternity care. She joined Pitt in 2001 after more than two decades as a family physician in the U.S. Army. She became the first female chair of a Pitt medical department and the first Black female chair in the nation of a medical department at a nonhistorically Black college or university. In 2004, The Joy McCann Foundation named South-Paul a McCann Scholar, with a \$150,000 award—the only national honor by a private foundation to recognize mentors in medicine, nursing, and science.

South-Paul received a bachelor's degree from the University of Pennsylvania and, in 1979, a medical degree from Pitt.

Gitlin's research explores fundamental aspects of nutrition, with an emphasis on copper metabolism. Copper is a nutrient that is essential to cellular respiration, pigment formation, and antioxidant defenses, among other bodily processes. Gitlin's research also focuses on the human disorder Menkes syndrome, a fatal disease characterized by sparse and coarse hair, growth failure, and deterioration of the nervous system. It is caused by a defective gene that regulates the metabolism of copper in the body.

Offit is a leading researcher in the fields of virology and immunology and a well-respected voice on the science, safety, and value of childhood vaccinations. His work includes 25 years spent on the development of RotaTeq, one of two vaccines used to fight rotavirus, a disease that is the leading cause of severe, dehydrating diarrhea in infants and young children. He is also one of the most public faces of the scientific consensus that vaccines have no association with autism.

Offit received his Bachelor of Science degree from Tufts University and his medical degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

# Ellen Frank Receives IOM Award for Approaches to Treating Mood Disorders

By Megan Grote Quatrini

Ellen Frank, Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry and Professor of Psychology in the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, received the 2011 Rhoda and Bernard Sarnat International Prize in Mental Health from the Institute of Medicine (IOM). The prize, including a medal and a

\$20,000 award, recognizes Frank's decades-long efforts to enhance treatment and the understanding of mood disorders.

She was one of two researchers nationwide selected for the prize, presented Oct. 17 during IOM's annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

"Our understanding of depression and other mood disorders and our ability to help people overcome these debilitating and potentially

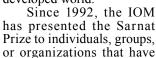
fatal illnesses owe much to the work of Ellen Frank and fellow award recipient William Bunney," said IOM President Harvey V. Fineberg. "Their research and clinical studies have not only directly contributed remarkable new knowledge to the field, but also spurred an abundance of findings by other researchers inspired by their work."

Frank's conceptualization and testing of novel psychotherapeutic approaches to mood disorders have led to far-reaching improvements in knowledge about and treatment of depression and have changed the nature of clinical practice in the United States and throughout the developed world. Her work has demonstrated the psychosocial components of mood disorders and their effects on circadian rhythms and other biological processes that contribute to such disorders. She developed interpersonal and social rhythm therapy (IPSRT), which blends interpersonal psychotherapy with behavioral intervention and is effective in teaching patients how to order their lives and stabilize their social

routines to avoid new episodes of depression or mania. In response to other professionals' interest in receiving training in IPSRT, Frank established a training institute to disseminate the intervention both nationally and abroad.

In addition, Frank's clinical trial, inves-

tigating ways to keep patients from experiencing recurrent depression, challenged the conventional practice of lowering patients' drug dosage after depression has subsided. Now, maintaining full-dose pharmacotherapy for patients with recurrent depression is the standard of practice throughout the developed world.



demonstrated outstanding achievement in improving mental health. The prize recognizes—without regard for professional discipline or nationality—achievements in basic science, clinical application, and public policy that lead to progress in the understanding, etiology, prevention, treatment, or cure of mental disorders or to the promotion of mental health.

The award is supported by an endowment created by Rhoda and Bernard Sarnat of Los Angeles. Rhoda Sarnat is a licensed clinical social worker, and Bernard Sarnat is a plastic and reconstructive surgeon and researcher. The Sarnats' concern about the destructive effects of mental illness inspired them to establish the award. Nominations for potential recipients are solicited every year from IOM members, mental health professionals, and others. Final decisions regarding the awards are made by a selection committee. Additional information on the Sarnat Prize can be found at www.iom. edu/sarnat.



Ellen Frank



University of Pittsburgh alumni, friends, and their families celebrated Homecoming 2011 over the Oct. 13-16 weekend. 1. The Pitt Program Council's Oct. 14 fireworks and laser show was a crowd pleaser. 2. Many alumni gathered in the Cathedral of Learning Commons Room during the Oct. 14 Pitt Alumni Association Welcome Back Reception for all alumni. **3.** The Pitt Panthers faced the Utah Utes on Oct. 15 at Heinz Field; Pitt running back Ray Graham (No. 1) is the nation's second-leading rusher. 4. From left, Jack Smith, president of the Pitt Alumni Association; Homecoming King Andrew Kaylor and Homecoming Queen Ainsley Ashton; and Pitt Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg. **5.** Members of Pitt's African American Alumni Council (AAAC) visited with students at the Barack Obama International Studies Academy in East Liberty. The Oct. 14 visit was part of AAAC's Appleseed Project, where alums visit city schools to talk with students about their career goals. Far left, Nkemjika N. Ofodile (A&S 'O2) from Washington, D.C.; front row center, Linda Wharton-Boyd (A&S '72, '75G, '79G), former AAAC national president; far right, Valerie Njie (EDUC '71), AAAC President, Pittsburgh Affliate; back row left, C. Dianne Colbert, AAAC member, and Tony Fountain (A&S '70), AAAC national president.



### African Diaspora's Challenges, Opportunities Are Focus of Pitt Conference

Local Organizing Committee cochairs are Patrick Manning, Andrew Mellon Professor of World History at Pitt and director of Pitt's World History Center, and Brenda F. Berrian, Pitt professor of Africana studies, English, and women's studies. ASWAD is an organization of international scholars seeking to further understand the African Diaspora. There are more than 80 sessions throughout the four-day conference.

Continued from page 1

Poet and author Abena Busia, director of ASWAD, professor in the Department of Women's & Gender Studies at Rutgers University and daughter of Kofi Abrefa Busia, the former prime minister of the Republic

of Ghana, also will present. In addition, Busia will give welcoming remarks at a reception to be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Nov. 4 at the Twentieth Century Club, 4201 Bigelow Blvd., Oakland.

Local Organizing Committee cochairs are Patrick Manning, Andrew Mellon Professor of World History at Pitt and director of Pitt's World History Center, and Brenda F. Berrian, Pitt professor of Africana studies, English, and women's studies. Berrian will give the presentation "A Rare Sense of Freedom: Wasis Diop's Film Score

for Hyènes" during a panel titled "Performance and Black Power: Agency, Resistance, and the Cultural Politics of Identity in Africa and Its Diasporas."

The more than 80 conference sessions

throughout the four-day program include:

 "Around the World and Black Again: Examining Constructions of Blackness and Diaspora in Four Different Contexts";

'Migration, the Power of Identity, and the Creation of Black Transnational Spaces: An Exploration of the Key Issues in Black and Muslim Immigration in the United States and Canada";

- "Womanism and Diasporic Activism";
- "Contemporary Challenges of Black Power";
- "Intersections of Theatre, Music, and Black Power";
- "A Call to Arms: Strategy and Tactics in the Black Power Movement";
- "Hip-Hop and Musical Expression Across the Diaspora"; and

• "Pittsburgh and the African Diaspora." ASWAD is an organization of international scholars seeking to further understand the African Diaspora. Through the examination of history, dance, anthropology, literature, women's studies, education, geology, political science, sociology, language, art, music, film, theater, biology, photography,

etc., ASWAD seeks to share the most recent research both within and across disciplinary and other conventional boundaries by way of conferences and symposia held periodically,

as well as through publications.

Pitt's World History Center emphasizes research, teaching, and international collaboration on the global past, with attention to policies for the global future. The center is located within the Department of History in Pitt's School of Arts and Sciences and is affiliated with Pitt's Global Studies Center and University Center for International

Pitt's Department of Africana Studies conducts multidisciplinary scholarship and teaching on the African diaspora. The Local Arrangements Committee includes 20 members from these and other departments at Pitt and other Pittsburgh institutions, including Carnegie Mellon and Chatham universities.

For more information on the center, visit http://www.worldhistory.pitt.edu/index-2011.php, and for more information on the conference, visit http://www.aswadiaspora. org/ASWAD\_2011\_CFP\_01.html.

# VanKirk, Harper Move City Law Firms to Support Pitt Law School

nearly \$1 million in

new philanthropic

commitments to the

In November 2009, VanKirk hosted

a dinner that brought

the key decision makers from 18 of

the city's largest law

firms together to hear a

presentation by Mary

Crossley, dean of Pitt's School of Law, and

Pitt Chancellor Mark

A. Nordenberg, who

served as dean of the

School of Law from

1985 to 1993. Their

appeal for support for



Thomas L. VanKirk



By Lynn Shea

While the value of a Pitt law degree is widely accepted, few take the time to consider the collective worth of the Pitt law school's many alumni, who together have had an astounding impact on the Pittsburgh business and

legal communities "If you realize the monumental contributions Pitt law graduates make to our region, you begin to realize how significant the school is and what a vital role it plays in ensuring the continued success of our city," says Thomas L. VanKirk.

He should know. He is the chair and immediate past chief executive officer of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC, one of Pittsburgh's largest law firms. Over the course of his nearly 40-year career, he has worked closely with many of the city's most important business and civic leaders.

VanKirk and Buchanan Ingersoll partner Robert T. Harper share a high opinion of Pitt's law school. While neither of them is a Pitt alumnus—VanKirk earned his JD degree from Penn State's Dickinson School of Law and Harper received his from the Duke law school—the pair has made a remarkable commitment to promote Pitt's School of Law by launching an initiative that in just 18 months has helped generate

Robert T. Harper

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—Thomas L. VanKirk

resonated with the firms and led directly to increased philanthropic support in the months that followed. "We are very grateful to Tom VanKirk and Bob contributions Pitt law graduates make to our

student scholarships, faculty assistance,

improved facilities, and expanded programs

Harper, both for their personal generosity and for their leadership efforts in generating support for our law school from within the Pittsburgh legal community," said Nordenberg. "It is gratifying to know that so many accomplished lawyers from within some of the region's major law firms place such a high value on the role we play in preparing lawyers to meet the challenges and seize the opportunities of the 21st centuryparticularly in the areas of energy, innovation, and

the life sciences, which have emerged as such key drivers of this region's economy.

'In more human terms, it also is heartening that such accomplished lawyers are willing to generously invest in the next generation of the profession," the chancellor

Harper has been a Pitt adjunct law faculty member for 14 years and a member of the law school's board of visitors for four years. While his professional expertise has enabled him to be a top-flight instructor in the business organization and health care law courses he teaches, his long-standing connection to the school has given him a deep understanding of the importance of strong legal education programs and helped him develop a sense of loyalty to Pitt that may rival his allegiance to his own alma

What became obvious to me was the vital role Pitt plays in Pittsburgh and how much the local legal community benefits by

having Pitt law students here," says Harper. When Harper wanted to do more for Pitt, he sought assistance from VanKirk, who joined the University of Pittsburgh Board of Trustees in early 2010.

"I already knew how important this law school was to all of us who practice law and conduct business in this community," says VanKirk, who has been recruiting lawyers from Pitt for more than 30 years. Of the 400 attorneys his firm employs, 58 are Pitt Law graduates. Not only was he eager to help, he believed that there were many others in the legal community who would understand the need and support the cause.

'This initiative exemplifies how successful Pitt Law has been in establishing effective partnerships with the local practicing bar that have a profound impact for both our students and faculty," says

VanKirk says that Crossley and Nordenberg are making his work easy: "When you hear the passion they have for law and for Pittsburgh, it's hard not to get behind this."

To date, more than 30 attorneys from VanKirk's firm have made collective commitments of \$250,000 to the Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney Faculty Scholar Award for faculty who undertake ambitious

scholarly work of high impact.
In addition to hosting the 2009 dinner that kicked off the initiative, VanKirk followed up by having one-on-one meetings with managing partners from individual firms, and his efforts are reaping the participation he had hoped for. Reed Smith LLP has established the Reed Smith Energy Innovation Fund to support programs and students in the areas of energy law and innovation. To date, more than 40 Reed Smith attorneys have collectively committed more than \$270,000. And the law firm K&L Gates LLP has received more than \$320,000 in collective commitments from its attorneys to establish the K&L Gates Fund

"We are very grateful to Tom VanKirk and Bob Harper, both for their personal generosity and for their leadership efforts in generating support for our law school from within the Pittsburgh legal community. It is gratifying to know that so many accomplished lawyers from within some of the region's major law firms place such a high value on the role we play in preparing lawyers to meet the challenges and seize the opportunities of the 21st century particularly in the areas of energy, innovation, and the life sciences, which have emerged as such key drivers of this region's economy."

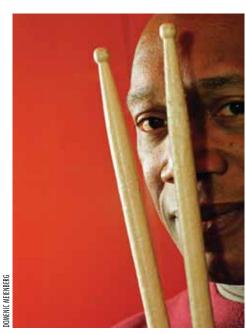
—Mark A. Nordenberg

for Innovation, which supports more broadly initiatives in areas relating to energy, the life sciences, and innovation.

VanKirk would also like to bring the corporate law community into the fold. He says that many of Pittsburgh's large corporations have sizable legal departments, which have the same vested interest in building and maintaining a top-notch law school.

VanKirk explains that while he began the effort by approaching a select group of large firms, he intends to continue meeting with representatives from more of the city's law firms and leading corporations. He is confident that the entire region, especially those in the legal community, will realize enormous benefits by supporting the Pitt School of Law through the creation of a culture that values and supports the common goals of the profession and Southwestern Pennsylvania.

### Seminar, Concert **Details Unveiled**



Billy Cobham

Continued from page 3

The Honorable William R. Robinson, District 10 representative to the Allegheny

County Council and former Pennsylvania state representative, will serve as the evening's master of ceremonies. At intermission, Fuller will be presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award and Allen with the University of Pittsburgh Jazz Seminar Committee Award. Two other musicians (one living and one deceased) will be inducted into the University of Pittsburgh International Academy of Jazz Hall of Fame.

**Brown-Bag Lunch** 

As a preview to Jazz Week and to set the mood on campus, free brown-bag lunch performances by members of the Pitt Jazz Ensemble have been taking place throughout October at Nordy's Place, lower level, WPU. The public is invited to the remaining performance at noon on Oct. 27.

**Evening Jazz Film** (Free and open to the public), 7 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 1, WPU Assembly Room

International Sweethearts of Rhythm (Greta Schiller and Andrea Weiss, 1986). This film tells the story of the swinging multiracial all-women jazz band of the 1940s. A 16-piece band with a strong brass section, heavy percussion, and a deep rhythmic sense, the Sweethearts were not just a novelty but featured many of the best

female musicians of the day. When the film was originally released, The New York Times hailed it as "a delightful trip down memory lane.'

Evening Jazz Lecture (Free and open to the public), 7 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 3, WPU Assembly Room

Michael Cuscuna, independent record producer and cofounder and president of Mosaic Records, will deliver a talk titled 'The Business of Jazz." One of the key figures in the reissue boom of the 1980s and '90s, Cuscuna had an early goal of starting his own record label. His career started in radio and in writing for Jazz and Pop and DownBeat magazines. But by the early 1970s, he was producing for the Atlantic label and freelancing for many other projects. In 1975, he gained access to the Blue Note vaults and began issuing a wealth of significant but unreleased material. In 1983, Cuscuna and Charlie Lourie cofounded Mosaic Records and went on to reissue lavish, limited-edition box sets. Mosaic is often called the Number One reissue label, and Cuscuna himself has frequently been voted Producer of the Year in the *DownBeat* Critics Poll.

Morning and Afternoon Lectures/ **Demonstrations** (Free and open to the

public), Friday, Nov. 4, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, 650 Schenley Drive, Oakland, 10-11:15 a.m.—Curtis Fuller, trombone, 2-3 p.m.—Larry Coryell, guitar

Saturday, Nov. 5, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, 10-11 a.m.—Billy Cobham, drums, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.—Randy Brecker and Maurice Brown, trumpets, 1-2 p.m.—Donald Harrison, alto saxophone, Quamon Fowler, tenor saxophone, 2-3 p.m. Geri Allen, piano

Outreach Appearances in Schools and in the Community, (Only the Hill House event is open to the public.)

Friday, Nov. 4, Falk Laboratory School, Aliquippa and Brackenridge streets, Oakland, I p.m.—Guest musician: Quamon Fowler, tenor saxophone

Pittsburgh CAPA (Creative and Performing Arts) 6-12, 111 Ninth St., Downtown, 1 p.m.—Guest musician: Maurice Brown, trumpet

Saturday, Nov. 5, Ronald McDonald House, 451 44th St., Lawrenceville, 11 a.m.—Guest musician: Abraham Laboriel, bass

Hill House Senior Community Service Center, 2038 Bedford Ave., Hill District, 11 a.m.—Guest musician: Larry Coryell, guitar. Light refreshments served.

# Happenings



Fabergé: The Hodges Family Collection, Frick Fine Art & Historical Center, through January 15

### Concerts

Lilly Abreu, Brazilian soprano, noon Oct. 26, free, Nordy's Café, ground floor, William Pitt Union, Artful Wednesdays Concert Series Fall 2011, Pitt Arts, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.

Benjamin Saalbach-Walsh, Pittsburgh Singer-songwriter, noon Oct. 28,
Cup & Chaucer Cafe, ground floor,
Hillman Library, University of Pittsburgh
Library System, Calliope: The Pittsburgh Folk Music Society, www.calliopehouse.

Galway Returns With Carmen Fantasy, Mozart Second Flute Concerto, Sir James Galway, flutist, with Conductor Leonard Slatkin, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, also symphonies by Haydn and Hovhaness, **Oct. 28-30**, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, 412-392-4819, www.pittsburghsymphony.

**Alon Yavnai**, Israeli jazz and world rhythms, **Oct. 29-30**, Manchester Craftsmen's Guild, 1815 Metropolitan St., 412-323-4000, www.mcgjazz.org.

Jeremy Filsell, artist-in-residence, Washington National Cathedral, 4 p.m. Oct. 30, Calvary Episcopal Church, 315 Shady Ave., Shadyside, Organ Artists Series, Pittsburgh Chapter of American Guild of Organists, www.oas-series.

Cuidado Tango Band, features accordion, upright bass, violin, guitar, and euphonium, noon Nov. 2, Nordy's Café, ground floor, William
Pitt Union, Artful Wednesdays Concert Series Fall 2011, Pitt Arts, 4<mark>12-624-4498,</mark> www.pittarts.pitt.edu.

Music on the Edge: Morton Feldman Mini-Festival, 8 p.m. Nov. 3-4, Wood Street Galleries, 601 Wood St Downtown, Music at Pitt 2011-12, 412-624-4125, www.music.pitt.edu.

The Refugees, blending country, rock, folk, and Americana, 7:30 p.m. **Nov. 5,** Carnegie Lecture Hall, The Calliope Concerts 2011-12, Calliope: The Pittsburgh Folk Music Society, 412-361-1915, www.calliopehouse.org.

Pitt's 41st Annual Jazz Seminar and Concert, 8 p.m. Nov. 5, Carnegie Music Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, Pitt Jazz Studies Program, Music at Pitt 2011-12, 412-624-4125, www.music.pitt.edu.

#### **Exhibitions**

Frick Art & Historical Center, Fabergé: The Hodges Family Collection,

the first major exhibition of Faberge objects to be shown in Pittsburgh, through Jan. 15, 7227 Reynolds St., Pittsburgh, 412-371-0600, www. fabergeatthefrick.org



Benjamin Saalbach-Walsh Cup & Chaucer Café, October 28

University Art Gallery, The Imprint of War: Responses in Print, through Dec. 5, exhibition showcasing artwork by war-inspired artists Jacques Callot, Nicolas Naughton, and Sandow Birk, sponsored by students in Pitt's Museum Studies Seminar course, free public opening reception 6:30-8:30 p.m. Oct. 31 at gallery, 610-357-4599.

Carnegie Museum of Art, Palladio and His Legacy: A Transatlantic Journey, through Dec. 31; Hand Made: Contemporary Craft in Ceramic, Glass, and Wood, ongoing; Past Meets Present: Decorative Arts and Design at Carnegie Museum of Art, ongoing, 4400 Forbes Ave., Oakland, 412-622 3131, www.cmoa.org.

The Warhol, Fifteen Minutes: Homage to Andy Warhol, through Jan. 8; I Just Want to Watch: Warhol's Film, Video, and Television, ongoing, 117 Sandusky St., North Side, 412-237-8300, www.warhol.org.

Heinz History Center, Angels of Mercy: Sisters in Healthcare in Western Pennsylvania, through late Fall 2011; 1212 Smallman St., Strip District, 412-454-6000, www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, Botany and History Entwined: Rachel Hunt's Legacy, rare gems from the original collection of founder Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt (1882-1963), **through Dec. 15,** 5th floor of Hunt Library, 4909 Frew St., Carnegie Mellon University, 412-268-2434, http:// huntbot.andrew.cmu.edu/.

Wood Street Galleries, Cell Phone *Disco*, **ongoing**, Tito Way, Downtown, 412-456-6666, www.pgharts.org.

### Lectures/Seminars/ Readings

"Cognitive Reserve: From Theory to Intervention," Yaakov Stern, division leader of Cognitive Neuroscience Division, Sergievsky Center, and professor of clinical neuropsychology, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, 4 p.m. **Oct. 24,** Al15 Crabtree Hall, Pitt Graduate School of Public Health's annual Jay L. Foster Memorial Scientific Lecture, www.upmc.

"Biological Revolution and Paradigm Changes: Transforming Science, Technology, and Knowledge Transfer via Commercialization,"

Leroy Hood, president and cofounder, Seattle-based Institute for Systems Biology, 5:30 p.m. **Qct. 24,** Scaife Hall, Auditoriums 5 and 6, Pitt Office of Enterprise Development, 412-624-3160, www.oed.pitt.edu.

'Open Access: Greater Impact for **Your Research,"** opportunity for Pitt faculty to learn how to share their research and increase its discovery, use, and impact on an international stage, 2-3 p.m., **0ct. 25,** University Club, Ballroom B, part of Open Access Week 2011, Pitt University Library System's Office of Scholarly Communication and Publishing, oscp@mail.pitt.edu.

"Enlightening Falsehoods," Soazig LeBihan, assistant professor of philosophy, University of Montana, 12:05 p.m. Oct. 25, 817R Cathedral of Learning, Lunchtime Talks, Center for Philosophy of Science, 412-624-1052, www.pitt.edu/~pittcntr.

"Author Rights and Publishing Today: What You Should Know and Why You Should Care," Denise Troll Covey, principal librarian for special projects, Carnegie Mellon University, noon **0(1. 26)**, Lecture Room 5, Scaife Hall, special lecture in recognition of Open Access Week 2011, a global event to promote free, immediate online access to research, Pitt's Health Scie Library System, www.hsls.pitt.edu, 412-

"An Update on Chinese Studies Resources at the University of Pittsburgh," Xiuying Zou, public services librarian, and Haihui Zhang, Chinese bibliographer, Pitt East Asian Library, noon Oct. 26, 4130 Posvar Hall, Asian Studies Center, asia@pitt.edu.

"Does Foreign Ownership Matter? Evidence From Foreign **Bank Ownership in Central** and Eastern Europe During the Financial Crisis," Rachel Epstein, professor in University of Denver's

Korbel School of International Studies, 3 p.m. **Oct. 26,** 4130 Posvar Hall, Pitt European Union Center of Excellence/ European Studies Center, www.ucis.pitt.

"Holy Anatomy, Animate Substance: The Shrine Madonna as a Performing Object," Elina Gertsman, assistant professor of medieval art, Case Western Reserve University, 4 p.m.

Oct. 27, 501G Cathedral of Learning, Pitt Medieval and Renaissance Studies, www.medren.pitt.edu.

The Case of Climate Change Policy at the City/ Metropolitan Level," Daniel A. Mazmanian, director of Judith and John Bedrosian Center on Governance and the Public Enterprise, University of Southern California, 10 a.m.
Oct. 28, Twentieth
Century Club, 4201
Bigelow Blvd., Oakland,
Pitt Center for Metropolitan Studies, free and open to public but RSVP required, 412-648-2282, cmsgspia@pitt.edu.

"Some Varieties of Mental Causation," John Campbell, Willis S. and Marion Slusser Professor of Philosophy, University of California at Berkeley, 3:30 p.m. **Oct. 28**, free, 817R Cathedral of Learning, Center for Philosophy of Science's Annual Lecture Series 2011-12, 412-624-1052, www.pitt. edu/~pittentr.

"Triumphal New York: The 'Roman' Arches of New York City," Elizabeth Macaulay-Lewis, Graduate Center, City University of New York, 4:30 p.m. Nov. 1, 306 Cathedral of Learning, Pittsburgh AIA, Pitt Department of Classics, www.classics.pitt.edu.

"War Crimes and Hollow Threats: Assessing the Coercive Logic of ICC Intervention in Ongoing Conflicts," David Mendeloff, professor and director in the Centre for Security and Defence Studies, Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada, 1:30 p.m. Nov. 2, 3911 Posvar Hall, Ford Institute for Human Security, Pitt Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, www.fordinstitute.pitt.edu

Michelle Rhee, former chancellor of Washington, D.C., schools, 8 p.m. Nov. 2, Heinz Hall, 600 Penn Ave., Downtown, Robert Morris University's 2011-12 Pittsburgh Speakers Series, 412-392-4900, www. pittsburghsspeakerseries.org.

Fred R. Brown Literacy Award **Reading,** Wells Tower, Pitt's 2011-12 award winner, will give a reading, 8:30 p.m. **Nov. 3,** G-24 Cathedral of Learning, Pitt's Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Series 2011-12, www.english. pitt.edu.

### Miscellaneous

**20th Annual Slovak Heritage Festival,** featuring song and dance performances by Slovakian artists, 1 to 5 p.m. **Nov. 6,** Cathedral of Learning Commons Room, Pitt Slovak Studies Program and Students' Slovak Club, 412-624-5906, slavic@pitt.edu.

**SAC Fall Assembly,** "Effectively Using Technology in Your Job," noon to 4 p.m. **Nov. 15,** William Pitt Union Assembly Room; welcoming remarks by Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg, keynote by Jinx Walton, director of Computing Services and Systems Development; Pitt Staff Association Council, conference schedule and registration at http://www2. hr.pitt.edu/sac/default.html.

### Opera/Theater/ Dance

The End of the Affair, dramatization of Graham Greene's iconic novel about a passionate affair that highlights the impossibility of knowing someone and the ways in which we order our morality, through Oct. 30, former Emma Kaufmann Clinic, 3028 Brereton St., Polish Hill, Quantum Theatre, 412-697-2929, www.quantumtheatre.com, PITT ARTS Cheap Seats Program, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts.pitt.edu.



Time Stands Still by Donald Marguilies, adventuresome couple shares love of reporting from war zones until one of them is seriously wounded, **through Nov. 6,** City Theatre, 1300 Bingham St., South Side, City Theatre Company, 412-431-4400, www. citytheatrecompany.org

Peter Pan, Peter and sidekick Tinkerbell take the stage accompanied by orchestra, **Oct. 28-30**, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Benedum Center, 237 7th St., Downtown, Pitt Night with the Pittsburgh Ballet is Oct. 28, 412-281-0360, www.pbt.org.

**Electra**, Sophocles' drama that brings to life the myths of ancient Greece while telling the timeless tale of one family's tragedy, **through Oct. 30**, O'Reilly Theater, 621 Penn Ave., Downtown, Pittsburgh Public Theater, www.ppt.org, PITT ARTS Cheap Seats Program, 412-624-4498, www.pittarts. pitt.edu.

Kinetix, Pitt's Dance Ensemble fall dance concert, 7 p.m. **Nov. 3-4,** Trees Hall Dance Studio, 412-648-8262, gillis@pitt.edu.

### Pitt PhD Dissertation Defenses

Joseph Packer, School of Arts and Sciences' Department of Communication, 9 a.m.

Oct. 31, "Because We Are Alone ... Arguments for Humans as the Universe's Only Intelligent Life Form From Ancient Philosophers to Today's Scientists," 1128 Cathedral of Learning.

Melanie J. Grubisha, School of Medicine's Molecular Pharmacology Graduate Program, 12:30 p.m. **Nov. 1,** "TGFB-Dependent Production of ROS Influences Paracrine Communications Between Stromal and Epithelial Cells in the Prostate," 1395 Starzl Biomedical Science Tower.

Kristin M. Pelczarski, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences' Department of Communication Science and Disorders, 9:30 a.m. Nov. 4, "Phonological Processing Abilities of Adults Who Stutter," 4065 Forbes

**Siobhan Gregg,** School of Medicine's Cell Biology and Molecular Physiology Graduate Program, 2 p.m. **Nov. 4,** "Endogenous DNA Damage Drives Cellular Senescence and Promotes Aging," S100A Starzl Biomedical Science Tower.

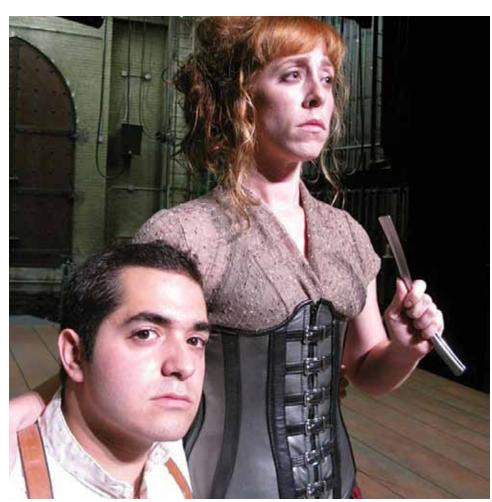


### **PittChronicle**

University News and Magazines University of Pittsburgh 400 Craig Hall 200 South Craig Street Pittsburgh, PA 15260

8 • Pitt Chronicle • October 24, 2011

# Pitt Rep and Pitt's Music Department Collaborate To Present *Sweeney Todd* Nov. 3-13



From left, Rocky Paterra as Tobias Ragg, and Theo Allyn as Mrs. Lovett

By Sharon S. Blake

Pitt's Charity Randall Theatre is abuzz with activity this fall. More than 50 actors, set designers, technicians, and others are in rehearsals for one of the most ambitious plays ever presented by Pitt Repertory Theatre—Stephen Sondheim's adaptation of the macabre musical thriller Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street.

A block away in Bellefield Hall, members of the University of Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra also are rehearsing. About 60 Pitt musicians will provide the musical accompaniment to the dramatic story of a deranged barber who cuts his customers' throats and then serves them as meat pies baked by his accomplice Mrs. Lovett.

The production, which will run Nov. 3-13, marks the first collaboration between Pitt Rep and Pitt's Department of Music. It kicks off Pitt Rep's 2011-12 season, which is titled *Bodies of Evidence*.

Sweeney Todd will star Richard Teaster, director of the Pitt Men's Glee Club, in the title role; local actor and Pitt teaching artist-in-residence Theo Allyn as Mrs. Lovett; and Pitt teaching artist-in-residence Andy Nagraj as Judge Turpin. A dozen undergraduate students round out the cast, whose members are getting intensive training in dance and vocals, as well as physical workouts with a fight choreographer.

While not technically an opera, *Sweeney Todd* places operatic demands on the singer-actors.

"There's going to be a lot of give and take between the musicians and actors," says director and Theatre Arts faculty member Lisa Jackson-Schebetta, who first met with orchestra director Roger Zahab about the project in the summer of 2010.

Zahab says there is underscoring throughout *Sweeney Todd*, but the biggest challenge for his musicians will be responding to what is happening on stage.

"The orchestra is a very important part of the drama," says Zahab. "It is another character." Whereas a film score is fixed, Zahab explains that actors in a live on-stage play strive to keep performances fresh every time. He calls it "the soul of live theater." And the musical score, he says, is the "ocean of sound in which the characters swim."

While the production team and crew work to pull the show together, there are costume fittings under way as well as work by another team to design and produce props.

"It takes a ton of people to create this world . . . and it's very exciting," says Jackson-Schebetta.

Performances of *Sweeney Todd* will be at 8 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. For more information, call 412-624-0933.

Information on the other plays in Pitt Rep's season follows.

*The Gammage Project* (World Premiere) Feb. 9-19, 2012

Henry Heymann Theatre, Stephen Foster Memorial

Written by: Attilio Favorini

Directed by: Mark Clayton Southers On Oct. 12, 1995, Johnny Gammage, cousin of former Pittsburgh Steeler Ray Seals, was stopped by a Brentwood, Pa., police officer. Seven minutes later, Gammage was dead. This original docudrama goes beyond issues of Black and White to expose the failures of public policy that still trouble the city of Pittsburgh.

Harvest

March 29-April 7, 2012

Henry Heymann Theatre, Stephen Foster Memorial

Written by: Manjula Padmanabhan Directed by: Anjalee Deshpande Hutchinson

In near-future Mumbai, India, a family struggles to survive in a world in which the economy has deteriorated beyond repair and the only way to survive is to sell yourself, piece by piece. *Harvest*, a dark speculative satire, explores the human experience in a world in which life can be packaged, bought, and sold. Just don't ask yourself how much life really costs.

PUBLICATION NOTICE The next edition of *Pitt Chronicle* will be published Nov. 7. Items for publication in the newspaper's *Happenings* calendar (See page 7) should be received at least two weeks prior to the event date. *Happenings* items should include the following information: title of the event, name and title of speaker(s), date, time, location, sponsor(s), and a phone number and Web site for additional information. Items may be e-mailed to chron@pitt.edu, or sent by campus mail to 422 Craig Hall. For more information, call 412-624-1033 or e-mail robinet@pitt.edu.