

— Year of I Can Action —

CONVERSE

MAGAZINE

Spring 2011





Posing in front of the Carolina Panthers' limousine



CONGRATUATIONS!
Valkyries Swim Team on
Their Undefeated Season

Boost 'Em Up!

Calling all sideline cheerleaders and athlete wannabes—the Converse College Valkyries are in the process of making history and we'd love to have you along for the ride! We're building a Booster Club and we need your support.

The athletic program at Converse today is a remarkable rise-from-ruin story. Dismantled in 1994 only to be brought back to life in 1998, Converse is now one of only two women's colleges in the nation playing at the NCAA-Division II level. Boasting seven team sports including soccer, swimming, cross-country, lacrosse, basketball, tennis and volleyball, Converse has most recently reinstated an IHSA equestrian program.

The big news this year is an undefeated season for the Valkyries swim team, an individual coup for lacrosse player Bridget Dullea who led the nation in goals per game and a collective 3.1 GPA for our Converse student athletes.

We don't need a pat on the fanny....just fans to root us on! Become a member of the Valkyries Booster Club today!

"Boost Up" the Valkyries and give your gift today!

Visit www.converse.edu/athletics/support or call Dan O'Neal at 864.596.9759

VALKYRIES CLUB LEVELS

Membership Benefits	Collegiate Club \$25	Converse Club \$50	All-American Club \$500	Championship Club \$1,000
Tax Deduction	X	X	X	X
Car Decal	X	X	X	X
Valkyries Pin		X	X	X
Valkyries Hat		X	X	X
Valkyries Umbrella			X	X
Program Recognition			X	X
Special Game Day BBQ and Receptions				X

CONVERSE

MAGAZINE



Welcome to The Heath Page 4

Step inside The Heath as Converse rolls out the "purple" carpet and dedicates the new \$12.3 million apartment housing facility.

Year of "I Can" Action

I Can Overcome

Page 8

While creating works of art for his retrospective exhibition, Professor Mac Boggs severely injured his hand, disabling his capacity to sculpt the remaining pieces of stone. Not one to give-up easily, read how Boggs' "I can" spirit prevailed.



I Can Make a Difference

Page 12

When it comes to effecting positive change in the world, Converse students aren't afraid to jump into the mix and get their hands dirty. Learn how several students are making a difference every day.



"I Can" Spirit

Page 14

Generations of Converse women have proved they can do anything. Here, three trailblazing alumnae share their personal "I can" stories.



Features

Honoring the Milliken Legacy

Page 18

Converse celebrates the life of beloved friend and benefactor, Roger Milliken (1915-2010).



Behind Every Great Student...

Page 20

Beyond the awards, plaques and building that bear the Milliken name are the women whose lives were forever touched by Roger and Nita Milliken's generosity.

The View from the Top

Page 22

From SC Governor Nikki Haley to *Law & Order* actress Jill Lawrence to award-winning author Thomas E. Kennedy, meet a few of the visitors who shared real-life lessons with the Converse community in fall 2010.



Departments

President's Message Page 2

Converse News

Athletics Page 24

Academics Page 26

Events Page 28

Giving

Celebrating Converse's "I Can" Spirit Page 30

Honor/Memorial Gifts Page 30

Alumnae News

Alumnae

President's Message Page 36

Alumnae Award Winners Page 38

Alumnae Board Slate Page 40

Life Events/
Class Notes Page 42

Editor/Senior Writer

Jennifer Baker

Contributing Writer

Beth Farmer Lancaster '96

Art Director

John Pryor

Production Assistant

Donna P. Gardner

Alumnae News

Nancy Smith Gage '82

Special thanks to Ron Bailey

Photography and Hot Eye Photography

The *Converse Magazine* is published by the Office of Communications, Converse College, 580 East Main Street, Spartanburg, SC 29302, 864.596.9704. Converse College does not discriminate in admissions or employment on the basis of race, color, sex, national or ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation, religion or disability. Converse admits only women to undergraduate programs and services in accordance with its historical mission.

Spring 2011, Volume 123, No. 1

Copyright© 2011 by Converse College



Distinctively Converse

Energy and enthusiasm, guts and glory...the Converse momentum is making milestones happen in 2011! This community at large, as well as individual students, faculty, staff and alumnae are effecting remarkable positive change. We are fueled by an “I can” spirit that is distinctively Converse.

This issue of the *Converse Magazine* captures the unique Converse brand of “I can” that connects and motivates all of us. As evidenced in the news and stories shared within, the Converse way is about forging collaborative partnerships, encouraging teamwork, pushing traditional boundaries, risk-taking and applying the kind of adaptability that is necessary to succeed, personally and professionally, in a rapidly changing world.

On January 21, 2011, the Converse community made history—celebrating together the opening of our first apartment housing. It is the first time since 1969 that Converse has created a new student residence facility. The stunning buildings of Howard Hall, Kate Hall and Zimmerli Common—collectively known as The Heath—far exceed our dreams and according to our students are a dream come true!

From the project’s inception, our planning process was marked by a thoughtful approach that supports Converse’s strategic goals of advancing community and creativity. We began by visiting



Top Photo: Ribbon cutting ceremony for The Heath

some of the best college housing facilities in the nation. But The Heath was designed to be uniquely Converse, melding the best design concepts to fit our culture and needs. We prioritized student, alumnae and Trustee input through focus groups, surveys and their inclusion on project committees. The significant level of their involvement strengthened the finished product. Indeed, The Heath has already been praised as “one of the most sophisticated residential environments in the country.”

Long before our shovels turned the dirt at the groundbreaking celebration, a host of generous Converse supporters stepped forward with gifts to fund fully our apartment housing project. During a time of economic uncertainty, they made investments that serve the best interest of our students and the long-term vitality and health of the College.



The Heath is just the first phase of a housing plan that will impact every residence hall on campus. So, we now move into Phase II with our sights set on the renovation of Dexter and Pell. These beloved historic residence halls will become the center of first-year housing and programs. Design development is underway as I write. We invite your participation and support. We hope that classes and friends who lived together during the past decades will join together to name Fifth Dexter, Third Pell and all other spaces in honor of your Converse experience and to extend that legacy to future generations.

Stories of firsts are a signature of the Converse “I can” spirit. On January 29, 2011, the Valkyries swim team, in only its second year of existence, became the first sports team in Converse history to finish a season undefeated. This year, *U.S. News & World Report* named Converse #1 Best Value in the South. *Washington Monthly* recognized Converse as third best in South Carolina for cutting-edge research initiatives and student service.

As I travel on behalf of the College, I continue to be inspired and amazed by Converse women near and far. Our enrollment numbers are on the rise and for good reason. Our success is in our people. It is the stories of our incredible alumnae that inspire prospective students and their families most about the “I can” spirit of Converse. Individually and collectively, you are the Converse story. So, continue to share your Converse story. Encourage others to take notice of our success. Tell us about the girls whom you believe would make great little sisters and dynamic Converse women.

I look forward to more great stories, more talk during reunion weekend this April. With an open house at The Heath, a sell-out concert featuring Darius Rucker on back campus and other exciting events, there are many more milestones in our future!

With all best wishes,

Elizabeth A. Fleming, PhD
President

“It is the stories of our incredible alumnae that inspire prospective students and their families most about the “I CAN” spirit of Converse. Individually and collectively, **you are the Converse story.**”

~ President Fleming



Hello Heath

With a triumphant brass salute and the snip of a purple ribbon, Converse introduced another landmark on its historic campus on Friday, January 21 by dedicating "The Heath." The new \$12.3 million apartment housing facility offers a host of modern amenities for students and the greater Converse community.

Bubbles and a little bit of "bubbly"

What started as a dream to improve student housing at Converse is now a dream come true. That was the sentiment on a bright blue day this January when trumpets regaled a huge crowd outside of the brand new Zimmerli Common. "When we last gathered on this site," said President Betsy Fleming, "I arrived in a rumbling, honking dump truck—wearing a hard hat, jeans and boots—ready to brave the muddy turf to break ground for our new apartment housing. It was an exciting moment full of energy and the magic of our collective, starry-eyed vision for the first apartment housing in the history of Converse College. Today, the stunning buildings that surround us far exceed our dreams for this project."

Through their beauty, form and function, Howard Hall, Kate Hall and Zimmerli Common—collectively known as The Heath—are poised to advance community and enhance a vibrant student life at Converse College. "In my four years here, I have never seen the student body so excited," said SGA President Madison Brewer '11. "There have been numerous Facebook countdowns and tons of planning among future apartment-mates. I've already begun planning my first meal in my new kitchen!"



During the ceremony, celebratory bubbles filled the air while Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Billy Webster and President Fleming shared the symbolic gifts each class presented during the apartment housing's groundbreaking in November 2009. The freshman class, who are now

sophomores, gave a red hammer to "hammer out all the kinks." Fleming joked that "A few of us may feel that we've BEEN hammered, but I think it's safe to say, it was all worthwhile." The sophomores, who are now juniors, donated a welcome mat that prompted Fleming to comment, "We're not only putting out the welcome mat, we're rolling out the red carpet!" The junior class, now seniors, who will be the first class to live in the apartments, gave a large alarm clock to keep the project on time. Last year's seniors presented a framed photo of their class to hang above the fireplace in Zimmerli Common, along with a bottle of champagne with instructions to be kept on ice until the apartments opened. Webster had the honors of opening the celebratory bubbly.



"In my four years here, I have never seen the student body so excited. There have been numerous Facebook countdowns and tons of planning among future apartment-mates."

SGA President Madison Brewer '11



Clockwise from top:
 1. Kitchen and dining area
 2. Living room and balcony
 3. Balconies of Kate Hall
 4. Millie's Lounge
 5. Don Wildman and Sidney Fulmer



Home sweet Heath

Lead architect for the project, Vinicius Gorgati of Sasaki, proclaims that "The Heath is one of the most sophisticated residential environments in the country in the way it embraces community and connects to the campus. The quality of the interior spaces, ample and full of natural light; the deliberate connections to the outside spaces, through balconies and bay windows; and the intimate scale of the new quadrangle, embraced by the two buildings and anchored by the Zimmerli Common all combine to create a place that speaks both to the campus traditions and its future."



The Heath is the first step in a 10-year master housing plan that will impact every residence hall on campus. The plan will create progressively independent living environments that balance community and connectedness with the development of autonomy and independence. "Since its founding, Converse has recognized and prioritized the benefits of residential life in a college community. It is exciting that we are now furthering those advantages for the 21st century student. We have a creative, unique plan that will position our campus for the future while honoring our legacy," said Fleming.

Furthering Converse's commitment to sustainability, The Heath is Converse's second building project designed to meet LEED certification standards, following the renovation of Kuhn Hall in 2009. Inside are three distinctive floor plans, featuring a kitchen, living room and options for single or double rooms. Patios and Southern style porches overlook the Rose Montgomery Johnston Quadrangle, and common areas such as Millie's Lounge and the Cato Study Room are designed to integrate residential living with academic and social events that bring all members of the greater Converse community together. "From the project's inception, the planning process has been marked by a distinctive and thoughtful approach that supports Converse's strategic goals of advancing community and creativity," said President Fleming.

The project team began by visiting some of the best college housing facilities in the nation. But The Heath was designed to be uniquely Converse, melding the best design concepts to fit Converse's distinctive culture and needs. Student input was prioritized throughout the project through focus groups, surveys and their participation on project committees. "The significant level of their involvement strengthened the finished product," said Fleming. Students also left their mark on the new construction by signing a beam that was installed in Zimmerli Common.

Converse prioritized fully-funding the project before construction began. In just three months, Converse supporters stepped forward with gifts totaling more than \$12 million. Fleming expressed the College's deep appreciation to these donors, noting, "During a time of economic uncertainty, they

made investments that serve the best interest of our students and the long-term vitality and health of the College. The story of The Heath is one of optimism and can-do spirit and an incredible example of what can be accomplished when people are willing to think differently about operations and avenues to success."

What's Next...

With the successful completion of phase one, Converse looks forward to launching phase two of the housing plan this spring. During this phase, the College will renovate two of the most historic buildings on campus—Pell and Dexter Halls. This project will integrate historic preservation with cutting-edge technology and be designed to meet LEED certification standards. Once renovated, Pell and Dexter Halls will be home to approximately 180 new first-year college students each year and serve as the center of first-year co-curricular programming. Stay tuned!



Clockwise from top:

1. Students, alumnae and staff with celebratory Heath candy bars
2. June McIntosh Uhler '67, Marjorie Coddington Cannon '62 and Kurt Zimmerli
3. (center) Mark Osinga, senior director of facility services and planning with members of the Harper Corporation
4. Lucy Simpson Kuhne '66 and family
5. (left) Kathy Zimmerli Wofford and friends
6. Converse students with Nancy Boatwright Holt '79 and family
7. Lead architect, Vinicius Gorgati, with Kurt Zimmerli and Elizabeth "Lib" Burnett Fleming '65

To see more photos
of The Heath, visit
www.converse.edu/theheath

Overcome

Things are only difficult if you make them so.

~ Mac Boggs

Like the singular sculptures that he brings to life, Converse Professor of Art Mac Boggs is one of a kind. As a widely renowned artist, Boggs is a teacher who teaches by example—not only lessons of creative expression but also of purposeful, passionate living. In celebration of his 40-year tenure at Converse and his countless contributions to the visual arts community, this year, Converse collaborated with University of South Carolina Upstate and Wofford College to showcase his diverse portfolio of work. The exhibition, *2010-2011: A Retrospective Exhibition for Mayo Mac Boggs*, was held on all three campuses during the fall of 2010. Well known for his abstract paintings, steel sculptures, bronze work, computer graphics and architectural designs, Boggs displayed more than 100 pieces of two- and three-dimensional art works. Remarkably, the showcase that was intended to honor Boggs' career evolved into a celebration of his tenacity and relentless determination. While in the middle of preparing for the exhibit, Boggs severely injured his right hand, disabling his capacity to sculpt remaining pieces of stone. Hardly one to back away from a challenge, Boggs' indomitable can-do spirit prevailed.

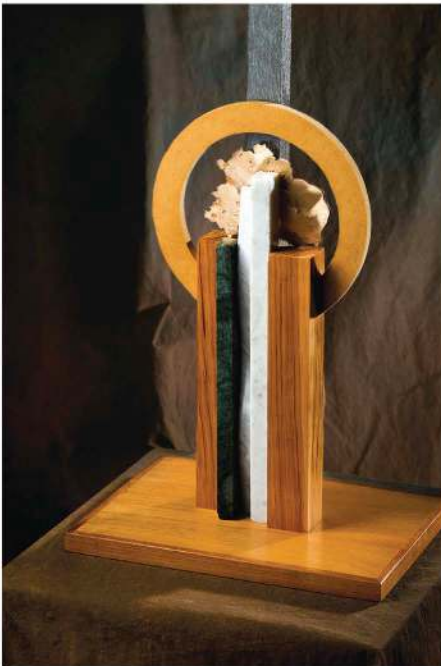
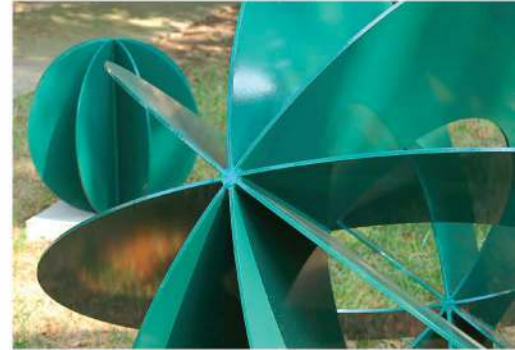


Boggs in the 1973
Converse yearbook



Strong as Steel

When Boggs began creating pieces for his exhibition, he drew upon his innate desire to build and sculpt things. "I come from four generations of metal workers. My great-grandfather was a blacksmith. My grandfathers and father were steel workers and welders. And I grew up in a steel town. I love the look, feel, taste, smell and sound of steel. I have taken this material and its process and made art—continuing a family tradition of ironwork." For Boggs, this exhibition not only presented an opportunity to create several new pieces, but also afforded the space to showcase dozens of previous works from his extensive collection. "Despite several different mediums, there is a continuous thread running through all of my work. I was excited about getting it all out and in a space where the community could walk around and look at everything together in an exhibition setting."



Photos clockwise from top left:

1. Boggs in his 3-D design class
2. Boggs working in his stone carving studio
3. Boggs' sculpture group, *A Green Season*, on the Wofford campus
4. *Le Memorie di Fortezza da Basso* (Memories of Fortezza da Basso), marble and wood sculpture

As with any show, Boggs had a set timeline to finish his works and all was going according to schedule when the unthinkable happened. "I was using a bench grinder to clean up the ends of a steel rod when the tool rest on the grinder shifted position and forced the sharp steel to twist and bury itself into the palm of my right hand. I went to the emergency room where they sewed-up the wound and instructed me not to use my right hand until it healed. This set me back a month in preparing for my exhibitions." Unfortunately for Boggs, one month quickly came and went without any physical progress and a diminishing timeline for creating the remaining pieces for his exhibition. "The pain continued and I went to a hand surgeon who told me that the steel had possibly nicked a tendon and surgery might be needed. He stressed that I should only use my right hand for assisting. Well, for me assisting means carrying the other half of 200 pounds... my right hand is a tool for everything I do."

Despite the severity of his injury and the collapsing timeline, Boggs says he never thought to quit. "Cancelling the exhibitions never crossed my mind. Instead, I began trying to figure out how I was going to finish the large sculptures for the USC Upstate show and accomplish the commitment I made to Converse...as well as myself...to exhibit 12 new marble sculptures." Boggs decided to complete the show by *building*, rather than *carving* sculptures out of wood and marble. "All of my sculpture for the past 40 years has been in the category of 'steel constructions.' So, I began to develop sketches and ideas for how to make marble constructions instead of carvings using only one hand and a little creativity. Once I had settled on 12 concepts from my drawings, I began to figure out the best way to make it happen." Boggs says this is where 40 years of friendships within the Spartanburg community and seeking the expertise of many companies in the region paid off. "It was like the cavalry coming to the rescue in a 1950's cowboy movie!"

"It was like the cavalry coming to the rescue in a 1950's cowboy movie!"

~ Mac Boggs

Helping hands

Several local businesses and members of the Spartanburg community rallied to Boggs' side. M & R Granite helped with drilling different sized holes in the marble and sandblasted a number of Boggs' welded steel sculptures. Freedom Fabrications, Colonial Welding and Comfab, Inc. helped with the cumbersome process of loading several-hundred-pound, large-scale steel sculptures and transporting to the USC Upstate campus. Barry Wright Powdercoating provided the color finish on Boggs' steel sculptures and Tezza Tile helped cut intricate shapes along with some industrial finishing. Mintz scrap metal, Carolina Brass Foundry and various industrial suppliers all come together to help make the exhibition possible.

- Photos clockwise from top right:
1. Boggs in his stone carving class
 2. Future Scape at USC Upstate, welded stainless steel sculpture
 3. I Cancelli di Industria (The Gates of Industry), marble and cast bronze piece



Each of the hosting colleges also did their part to help keep Boggs' exhibition on track. Oakley H. Coburn, dean of the library and director of cultural events at Wofford College, personally selected each piece of art out of hundreds to hang in the Wofford exhibition. Jane Nodine, art professor and gallery director at USC Upstate, selected eight outdoor spaces and had professional concrete pads poured. The USC Upstate maintenance department erected and bolted each piece to the pads. Kathryn Boucher, gallery director of the Milliken Art Gallery, provided the kick-off series of openings and worked with each school in providing publicity.

Show time

After months of perseverance and teamwork, with pieces being installed up until the day of the opening, Boggs was ready to unveil his three-part exhibit to an enthusiastic community of admirers. "Mac's talents are great gifts to the broader Spartanburg community. Over the past 40 years, he has shared that talent with students through teaching while at the same time creating beautiful artwork that enlivens facilities and green spaces far beyond the gates of the College," says Converse President Betsy Fleming. "Mac is truly a high-impact artist in our community as evidenced by three institutions of higher education joining together to celebrate his work."

For his Converse exhibition, Boggs selected 15 marble stone and metal sculptures to be displayed inside the Milliken Art Gallery. "Marble is so special because of the beauty of the crystals and its wonderful feel. It becomes such a beautiful material to work with in your hands...very much like wood in that it's easy to carve but you have to use the proper tool or else it will chip or bruise." Boggs continues, "You do not beat a stone; you caress it. There's a certain type of chisel that you use for every move. With marble, an artist may use twenty different chisels for one certain area."

"Mac is truly a high-impact artist in our community as evidenced by three institutions of higher education joining together to celebrate his work."

~ President Fleming



Fall 2011 Milliken Art Gallery Exhibition Schedule

August 25 – September 22, 2011

Jessica Wohl

www.jessicawohl.com

Reception: September 8, 2011–6:30-8:30 pm

Gallery Talk: September 8, 2011–6:00 pm

September 29 – October 27, 2011

Jeffrey Young

<http://jeffreyyoungphoto.com/>

Reception: October 6, 2011–6:30-8:30 pm

Gallery Talk: October 6, 2011–6:00 pm

November 3 – December 1, 2011

David Zacharias

Reception: November 3, 2011–6:30-8:30 pm

Gallery Talk: November 3, 2011–6:00 pm



On the USC Upstate campus, Boggs presented five monumental, welded-steel outdoor sculptures, weighing as much as 600 lbs. His love affair with metal began when he was a child. "Growing up near the railroad tracks of Ashland, Kentucky, I would pick up pieces of scrap metal that had fallen from the box cars, fill my wheel barrel with about fifty pounds of scrap and take it to a nearby business that was going to buy the scrap anyway from the train. They'd give me a quarter, and I'd go to the movies. When you're poor you'll find every way you can to make a few pennies. But I was, perhaps subconsciously at the time, fascinated by the shapes of the scrap pieces."



Wofford's Sandor Teszler Library gallery showcased a collection of over 50 pieces of two-dimensional works, as well as selected small sculptures. "At Wofford we were interested in showing work by Mac Boggs for a number of reasons," said Coburn. "He's an artistic icon in Spartanburg and has participated in multi-artist exhibitions here before—notably our *Tribute to Trees* exhibition after the devastating ice storm which felled 25 large trees on the campus in December of 2001. We also have an outdoor sculpture by Mac on the campus. I wanted our students to see more of his work and understand the existing piece more fully in the context of his other work."

For Boggs', the show was a success on multiple levels. "The experience made me appreciate all of those who expressed an interest and an eagerness to help me in my goal to have a 40-year retrospect of my artwork. The many people, especially my wife, Ansley, and son, Will, who embraced the project made it exciting and a joy to do—things are difficult only if you make them so. Having all of the members of the community who came to the exhibitions expressing affection, enjoyment and such kind words...was very humbling."

Photos clockwise from top:

1. Boggs' sculpture group, *A Green Season*, on the Wofford campus
2. Boggs at the train station in Pietrasanta, Italy
3. Boggs in his architectural drawing class
4. Boggs today



I CAN

Make A Difference

We all have ability. The difference is how we use it.

~ Stevie Wonder

It was Dexter Edgar Converse who said that “the well-being of any country depends much upon the culture of her women.” For more than a century Converse students have honored that ideal with an “I can” spirit of leadership. When it comes to effecting positive change in the world, Converse students aren’t afraid to jump into the mix and get their hands dirty. In fact, last year alone over 80% of Converse students participated in community service, logging over 9,000 service hours. Read on for a little “I can” inspiration!

Youth Interested in Politics

With a fervent desire to make politics relatable to her peers, Ashley Page '13 created a new organization called “Youth Interested in Politics,” for young people ages 14 to 35 who are interested in learning about political issues from each other and from guest speakers. With a growing membership of young people from middle school, high school, college, graduate school...and even a few senior citizens, Ashley Page has people talking.



Ashley Page '13

Q For many women, getting involved in the political arena—whether as part of an organization or simply discussing various issues—can be intimidating. What made you take action and create Youth Interested in Politics?

I believe many young people are intimidated by politics because most politicians use overly-complicated rhetoric to try and explain things and end up not relating to their voters, especially the youth. Politics, when you break it down to its raw form, is simply asking questions like “Who decides how much is the minimum wage?” and, “How do they decide that?” A young person’s first work experience is usually at a job where they make minimum wage. When you present a topic that they can see impacts them personally, like their paycheck, they end up wanting to learn more about politics.

Q What does Youth Interested in Politics offer those who join?

Y.I.P. serves as a forum for discussing political issues and offers members the chance to meet elected officials and others who share a similar interest. We participate in community service opportunities around Columbia and we register members to vote at our meetings. Y.I.P. is currently working on providing periodic workshops for our members and the community. Our organization also helps members find internship opportunities, and we are trying to secure funds from supporters and donors in order to provide a scholarship for a future college or graduate school student.

Q What have you learned from this experience?

This experience has made me see how much power young people have. It has also made me see that I definitely want to one day be in the shoes of current politicians and be able to make a difference directly through legislation.

For more information about joining Y.I.P., contact Ashley at ashley.page@converse.edu.

Help for the Homeless

One week prior to Thanksgiving, Converse College students left the warmth of their residence halls, took off their comfortable sneakers and stepped into the shoes of the victims of poverty. Despite the fact that life on a college campus is fairly cushy, Converse students say they are increasingly aware that beyond the gates of the College there are homeless citizens in Spartanburg who need their help. To learn more about the issue and how to address the challenges of homelessness head-on, Converse students participated in “National Hunger and Homelessness Week.”

Together with community agencies such as Mobile Meals, Habitat for Humanity and the Faces of Homelessness Bureau, Converse’s Office of Service-Learning immersed students in a week of activities that underscored the needs of low-income and homeless families in the Upstate. Events included a “Hunger Banquet” that dramatized the unequal distribution of food in the world, an organized “Sleep-Out” during which students camped out in cardboard boxes on the back lawn of the campus, and a variety of service projects related to the issue of homelessness. “While missing a meal or sleeping out in the cold hardly simulates homelessness, these awareness-raising activities promoted advocacy and education,” said Kelly McCrell, AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer at Converse.

During the week, students took every opportunity to learn and be forces of change. In addition to raising awareness, students sold t-shirts and set up donation bins to collect hygiene products, blankets, winter jackets and food. “These students really demonstrated that you have to start somewhere if you want to make a difference. It is easy,” said McCrell, “to fall into the trap of agreeing with stereotypes and assumptions because it allows us to distance ourselves and give reason to not feel for those we see on the street. But understanding that poverty is everyone’s problem changes how you respond to the issue.”





Girls Just Wanna Have Fun

On Friday, October 22 hundreds of elementary and middle school girls between the ages of 6 and 14 flocked to the Converse College campus for its annual Girls Day. The event, now in its third year, is coordinated by Converse Valkyries Athletics and staffed with volunteers from the entire Converse community—faculty, staff, students and student-athletes.

According to Converse Head Basketball Coach Joanna Tincher, Girl's Day is meant to provide girls in the community with a day to call their own. "It's a day that celebrates the young girls of our community,

a day that introduces them to the wide world of possibilities through education," said Tincher. "They have the chance to experience things they normally wouldn't have the opportunity to do, to meet kids from across the community and to spend time on a college campus that focuses on empowering women."

Girls from Spartanburg and surrounding communities participated in a number of creative learning stations that ranged in activities from CPR, music, art, theatre, lacrosse, tennis, yoga, dance, fitness and nutrition.

It Can't Wait, Clean The Coast!

Eleanor Johnson '12, a Mississippi native, grew frustrated by the lack of care for the natural resources devastated by the BP oil spill. This past summer, she took action into her own hands and designed a bumper sticker with three pelicans and the message "It Can't Wait, Clean Up the Coast" to raise awareness and funds to support The Nature Conservancy's efforts to lead a long-term restoration process along the Gulf Coast.

Q With the magnitude of destruction caused by the oil spill it would have been easy for you to say, "Well, there isn't anything I can do to help." What drove you to get involved?

I am originally from Past Christian, Mississippi, and because it is located on the Gulf Coast I hold the area very close to my heart. I was pushed to help after the oil spill because I was not able to help with the cleanup following Hurricane Katrina, and this time I refused to do nothing. Though I couldn't go home to help physically, I was determined to make a difference. Creating the bumper sticker allowed me to raise awareness about the needs of the wildlife that had been affected by the spill.

Q Describe the evolution that took place from having an idea to making the stickers to getting the word out to the public.

The idea started with my family. My parents and I would talk about how upset we were about the oil spill and we brainstormed ideas of how we could help. Even though it was a long process of getting everything together for the stickers, it was very rewarding to finish production. Next, I had to find an organization that I thought was helping the wildlife in the most productive manner. I then worked with the organization to make sure that I represented them in the best way with my fundraiser. After the stickers were printed, I talked to local business owners. My cause was also written about in the local newspaper to spread the word around town.

Q Why a sticker?

Anyone can pick up a sticker and put it on their car, water bottle, computer, or almost anything. Stickers are easily placed and because of this, they are easily seen. Even if someone was not buying the sticker, people would gain awareness about the cause just by the sticker being displayed.

Q What have you learned from this experience?

I have learned that it takes a lot of work and persistence to make a fundraiser successful, but that it is incredibly rewarding and fulfilling.



Eleanor Johnson '12

I CAN SPIRIT

Do the one thing you think you cannot do. Fail at it. Try again. Do better the second time. The only people who never tumble are those who never mount the high wire. This is your moment. Own it.

~ Oprah Winfrey

Generations of Converse graduates have blazed trails where other women were afraid to even tread lightly. The alumnae stories that follow are about three Converse women who make trailblazing look like a walk in the park. Alumnae Lan Nguyen Shortt '82, Elisabeth Lucas Marchant '68 and Patricia (Pat) Parsons Hickerson '64 all epitomize the "I can" spirit that has become a hallmark of the Converse experience. Their stories are as diverse as their backgrounds, but the alumnae you are about to meet share a common thread in Converse and the bond of knowing that when push comes to shove, Converse women can do anything.



Lan Nguyen Shortt '81

Managing Partner, Shortt & Nguyen, P.C. Attorneys & Counselors at Law, Houston, TX

After immigrating to the US as a refugee from Vietnam in 1975, and enduring many hardships in that transition, including time in refugee camps, Lan Nguyen Shortt '81 entered Converse as a Milliken Scholar. She majored in Sociology with minors in English and Political Science. After graduation, Shortt went on to obtain both a JD and MBA from University of Houston. Since her admission to the Bar in Texas in 1984, she has made enormous contributions to the legal (and other) needs of low income individuals and families in the Houston area, and recently accepted the 2010 ABA Pro Bono Publico Award.

Shortt has received many honors recognizing her unique pro bono contributions, including the 2007 Houston Bar Award for Outstanding Contribution to Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program by an Individual and the 2007 State of Texas Pro Bono and Legal Services Award. Shortt donates hundreds of hours as a pro bono attorney each year, despite also maintaining a legal practice with her husband. She has been a driving force of the Houston Bar Association's outreach to the Asian American community and a committed volunteer through its Volunteer Lawyers Program.



Elisabeth Lucas Marchant '68

President and CEO of Womenetics

Elisabeth Lucas Marchant '68, founder and CEO of Womenetics, has influenced the media landscape for more than fifteen years, specializing in online, print media and executive events. As a lifelong entrepreneur, Marchant launched Womenetics in 2009 to address the changing needs of today's professional woman. In a world where roles are rapidly evolving not only in the workplace but also in the home, Marchant has created a community where women can speak freely about important issues. Womenetics is a premium source for substantive information for and about women and was recognized by *Forbes* magazine in 2010 as one of the Top 100 Websites for Women.

Marchant majored in English at Converse, with a minor in French and Art History, and spent her junior year abroad in Paris. She has used her liberal arts background to apply sound professional practices in a multitude of businesses. Her career has included manufacturing and distribution in commercial construction and the development of various media enterprises. Marchant has received numerous community honors, including the YMCA's Academy of Women Achievers, the *Atlanta Business Chronicle's* Top 10 Women in Business and is a member of the 2004 class of Leadership Atlanta.



Patricia Parsons Hickerson '64

**Major General, United States Army, Retired
CH2M Hill Army Strategic Account Manager**

As the CH2M Hill Army Strategic Account Manager, Patricia (Pat) Parsons Hickerson '64 serves as the engineering construction firm's primary point of contact with the Army. Hickerson joined CH2M HILL in May 2001 after almost 33 years of service with the United States Army, retiring as a Major General. Her last position with the Army was Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, United States Army Europe and Seventh Army, Heidelberg, Germany, where she was responsible for plans, policies and programs for the management of all military and civilian personnel in Europe, to include family members and retirees. In her previous assignment as Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel and Installation Management, US Army Forces Command, she led all aspects of human resource and installation management for the nation's largest military command consisting of 800,000 personnel and managed a budget of \$1.3 billion.

At Converse, Hickerson earned a Bachelor of Music Degree with honors in Flute Performance, a Master of Music Degree and in 1989, a Doctor of Public Service (honorary degree). Her military education includes the Women's Army Corps Officer Basic Course, the Infantry Officer Advance Course and the National War College. Presently, Hickerson is a member of the Board of Visitors, Virginia Military Institute; Council of Trustees, Association of the United States Army; Board of Directors of the Military Officer's Association of America; and Board of Visitors, Converse College.

I Can Persevere

by Lan Nguyen Shortt '81

My path to Converse was different from most. After years of bloody conflict, the Vietnam War was coming to an end. With communist forces poised to overrun Saigon, the capital city plunged into a final spasm of chaos as helicopters ferried the last lucky few to freedom. I was then 14-years-old and knew the future did not bode well. My father was imprisoned in a Communist concentration camp, and we knew that the collapse of South Vietnam was certain to bring extreme hardship for our family.

Consequently, my mother decided to leave Saigon and make a break for freedom with her seven children under cover of darkness. We escaped aboard a series of Vietnamese and U.S. navy and cargo ships and started a months-long odyssey that took us to the Philippines and multiple refugee camps from Guam to Florida and Arkansas, and finally to Fairhope, Alabama.

“Through Converse I made many life-long friends and was exposed to a range of learning that I have discovered many college graduates never encountered.”



Shortt with family

Fairhope, a small town on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay, was aptly named for a refugee family looking for a new home in a new world. During this difficult time, the people of this community in the Deep South opened their arms and embraced us into their town, their families and their lives. These individuals' attitudes and actions created a debt I cannot repay.

As the end of high school approached, I began looking for a way to continue my education. This was complicated by my family's lack of financial resources. During a conversation, my high school counselor mentioned that Converse College had a competitive scholarship program to which I ought to consider applying. My first reaction was not to bother because it would not only require travel for which I had no way of paying, but it would also require that I lose a weekend's worth of work at my after school grocery store job that helped support my family. Nevertheless, my counselor somehow persuaded me to apply, and the owners and co-workers of the grocery store where I worked paid for my travel.

When I arrived at Converse I was attracted by the intimate size, the liberal arts program and the lack of the typical college social pressures. My interviews went well, and as a result I returned to Converse in the fall as a Milliken scholar. The three years I spent at Converse gave me more than a major in Sociology and minors in English and Political Science. Through Converse I made many life-long friends and was exposed to a range of learning that I have discovered many college graduates never encountered.

While I was at Converse, my family moved to Houston. Consequently, after graduating, I enrolled in the University of Houston Law School and graduated in 1984. Following graduation, I began practicing law and earned an MBA. One of the benefits of having become a lawyer is that it gave me an opportunity to help others through providing various kinds of pro bono services. Astonishingly enough, it also led to my having several radio talk shows on Vietnamese radio stations over the years.

In 1992 I married my husband, and we homeschool our three sons, whose ages range from 8- to 15-years-old. Our life is quiet, but with three sons it is never boring or without challenges.

As I look back over my life, I cannot help but think of the many people who helped me along the way. Without the many kindnesses shown me by the family that owned the little grocery store, the Millikens and the many faculty, students and administrators that I met at Converse, my life might have taken a much different and much less rewarding path. I have a great deal to be grateful for, and Converse is one of them.



I CAN SPIRIT

I Can Empower Women

by Elisabeth Lucas Marchant '68

“Go For It!” My father’s lifetime mantra, combined with an “I CAN” attitude, inspired me to empower women. In my life, I have been surrounded by fascinating people, great leaders and a supportive family. In addition, I received an education that exposed me to new opportunities, the joy of learning, discipline and curiosity. All of this allowed me the opportunity not only to build businesses, but to personally touch and empower other women. And most importantly, I came to believe that I should “Go for It” because “I CAN.”

I keenly remember the inspiration and challenge of Madame Elisabeth Epting, my French professor at Converse, who challenged me to (significantly) improve my (embarrassingly low) French grade to allow me to spend my junior year in Paris. Working toward a major in English, the idea that I could improve my grade so significantly in a foreign language was quite an overwhelming challenge. But accomplishing this allowed me to study in Paris, and that year was a life changer for me.



“I came to believe that I should ‘Go for It’ because ‘I CAN’.”



Top photo: Marchant welcoming US Ambassador Melanne Verveer to the stage

Bottom photo: Ambassador Verveer, Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed and Marchant

Fast-forward to today. After spending 15 years in a family-owned manufacturing and distribution business and another 15 years in media, I founded Womenetics, a global business platform and media property for professional women whose mission is to uplift and empower professional women while engaging companies in understanding why this is so important.

All the world-renowned thought leaders understand why women’s empowerment is so important. The data is clear – companies that support women in leadership roles throughout the organization are the companies that perform the best financially. When women succeed, not only do they succeed, but their families, their communities, their businesses and their countries also succeed. Quite frankly, it’s an imperative for business success.

Why not women in leadership roles?

Why not take advantage of more than 51% of the American work force?

Why not empower women globally to have equal access to health, and education and jobs – and human rights?

It all makes sense for business. And, it’s the right thing to do. Major corporations are now recognizing the value and importance of this. In fact, Muhtar Kent, the chairman of The Coca-Cola Company, last year announced Coke’s goal to empower five million women entrepreneurs throughout Coke’s global business system by 2020. Global thought leaders including McKinsey, Ernst & Young, Deloitte, Goldman Sachs and others have all developed studies and white papers supporting and documenting the value of women’s leadership.

For me personally, I know:

- I CAN be a voice and connector for young women to inspire them to succeed.
- I CAN inspire substantive and relevant conversations about women’s leadership.
- I CAN build an online community where women speak freely about important issues.
- I CAN do this in a collaborative, supportive environment that engages men in these discussions.
- I CAN facilitate introductions to key leaders, creating a multi-stakeholder approach with corporate, academic, nonprofits and public policy thought leaders.

As I look back on my education and background, I am confident that my liberal arts education, incorporating study abroad, enabled me to have a broad view of not only what I think but also who I have become and the impact I CAN make.



Honoring The Milliken Legacy

Roger Milliken (1915-2010)

On December 30, 2010, the Converse community lost a beloved friend and benefactor with the death of 95 year-old Roger Milliken. Ralph Waldo Emerson once said that, "An institution is the lengthening shadow of one man." That observation applies to every organization that Mr. Milliken was associated with. For more than six decades, Roger and his wife Nita were ardent supporters of Converse, advancing the College through their gifts of time, talent and treasure.



Larger than Life

As a titan of the textile world, Roger Milliken's extraordinary business acumen extended well beyond the corporate arena of product development and patented formulas. While he will be remembered worldwide as a great industrialist who helped build America's manufacturing success, it was Milliken's quest to advance higher education and his commitment to community that Converse College will long revere.

"The Milliken name at Converse is synonymous with vision and growth," said President Betsy Fleming. "Roger Milliken was an extraordinary man, a change agent of the greatest magnitude. It is hard to write about a life so large with ordinary words. As president, I was privileged to know Mr. Milliken as a colleague and a friend. I could always look to him to embolden Converse's commitment to innovation and change. His informed and insightful questions about the College's most recent building plans significantly shaped the ways in which we approached our work. It is hard to imagine a world without Roger Milliken's agile and ageless mind."

Giants of Generosity

The Milliken connection to Converse dates back to 1954 when the Milliken family relocated from New York to Spartanburg. In 1958, Spartanburg became the home of Milliken and Company's headquarters and Converse College became one of the many beneficiaries of Mr. and Mrs. Milliken's tremendous generosity.

While Roger Milliken joined the Board of Trustees at Wofford College in 1958, his wife, Justine V.R. "Nita" Milliken, was named a member of the Converse Board of Trustees in 1968. Mrs. Milliken served on the Converse Board until 1995, at which time she was named a Life Trustee of the College. At the 1986 Alumnae Reunion, Nita was celebrated as an honorary alumna for her love and loyalty to Converse, and in 1993 she was awarded the Dexter Edgar Converse Award, the highest honor bestowed by the College.



"The impact of the Millikens' contributions to Converse is extraordinary," said Dr. Tom McDaniel, senior vice president of the College and interim president of Converse from 1993-94. "When Roger and Nita established the Milliken scholarship program in 1978, their generosity touched the lives of our students in countless ways. Young women who might not have had the opportunity to study at a private college saw their dreams realized as a result of the Milliken scholarships. There was great prestige associated with the Milliken Scholars Competition. To be named a Milliken Scholar was a mark of pride and distinction recognized by the entire Converse community." To date, more than 300 Converse students have graduated as Milliken Scholars.

“Roger Milliken was an extraordinary man, a change agent of the greatest magnitude. It is hard to write about a life so large with ordinary words.”
~ President Fleming



Towering Presence

While the Millikens' legacy will live on in the accomplishments of generations of students and alumnae, the couple's imprint on the life of the College is tangible on every corner of the campus. In 1971, Mr. and Mrs. Milliken contributed the funds to construct a building to house the College's growing visual arts program and an adjacent art gallery, aptly named the Milliken Fine Arts Building. When the number of visual-art students attending Converse ballooned in 2001, the couple made another gift to fund construction of the Nita Milliken Wing of the Milliken Fine Arts Building.

In support of the College's LEED designed buildings on campus, Mr. Milliken was engaged with the renovation of Kuhn Hall and equally involved in plans for the construction of Converse's new apartment housing—a space that seems to mirror Mr. Milliken's keen awareness of and appreciation for the beauty of his surroundings. With an eye on “going green” long before the eco-friendly catch phrase caught on, Milliken spent the latter half of his life promoting the importance of protecting the environment through sustainability. His “Noble Tree Foundation” established in 1999 has resulted in the planting of hundreds of enduring and beautiful trees throughout the state of South Carolina.

“Like his beloved noble trees,” said Betsy Fleming, “Mr. Milliken was a remarkably tall man in stature, but those of us who were fortunate to know him found that it was his love of learning and his passion for excellence that made him such a towering presence. Eleanor Roosevelt once said ‘the world needs thinkers and the world needs doers, but most of all, the world needs thinkers who do.’ Mr. Milliken exuded that philosophy in the way he lived his life. What a great lesson to leave us.”

On October 28, Mr. Milliken joined the centennial celebration of the Carroll McDaniel Petrie School of Music. Converse was fortunate to witness his delight in the ongoing accomplishments of the College.

For more photos and reflections from the Converse community honoring Mr. Milliken, visit www.converse.edu/rogermilliken





Behind Every Great Student...

Beyond the awards, plaques and buildings that bear their name are the women whose lives were forever touched by the generosity of Roger and Nita Milliken. In 1978, the Millikens established the Milliken scholarship program. Since its inception, more than 300 Converse students have graduated as Milliken Scholars. Here, four Converse alumnae talk about the donors who made a world of difference in their lives.



Brasington Clark's senior class photo in 1982

An Important Start

When I was a high school senior I wasn't sure whether I would be able to attend college. My father had been dead for a decade, and my mother was raising five children on a minuscule nonprofit salary. One of my older brothers was ill and needed care. I wasn't optimistic about my future.

On the advice of a guidance counselor, I spent a weekend at Converse to interview for the chance to receive one of the first Milliken scholarships. I certainly knew the Milliken name—my parents and grandparents had worked in textile mills—but it was hard for me to fathom why someone as distinguished as Roger Milliken would be interested in the future of someone like me.

I was named to the first group of Milliken Scholars in 1978. Thirty-three years later I regard it as a milestone that changed my life. The intellectual rigor of the Humanities program, and the electric energy of its leader, Dr. Frederick Ritsch, challenged my brain. The support of the Converse community nurtured my soul and instilled in me a level of confidence that led me on a path to success I had never before dreamed possible.

Reminded by these memories of the impact of philanthropy on the lives of young people with limited financial means, I plan to honor Mr. Milliken's memory (and that of his kind wife, Nita) with a renewed pledge to support the extraordinary college that gave me such an important start.

*Becky Brasington Clark '82
Director of Marketing and Online Book Publishing, Johns Hopkins University Press
Milliken Scholar*

Boundless Ambition, Compassion and Even Some Fun

As a recipient of the Justine V.R. “Nita” Milliken scholarship, I was aware of the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Milliken from the start of my Converse experience. Over the course of my education however, I gained a better appreciation for the true extent of their philanthropy and vision. I gradually learned of their support of the visual arts at Converse and of their numerous contributions to the Converse community. Moreover, Mr. Milliken’s leadership and vision were crucial to major projects announced during my senior year at Converse – the renovation of Kuhn Hall and the construction of apartment housing.

Although Mr. Milliken’s contributions to Converse are many, I remember him more simply as the person who helped make my Converse education possible and as a person who worked constantly to ensure the quality of the Converse experience for all Converse students. In retrospect, my Converse experience taught me to live life with boundless ambition, assurance, hard work, compassion and even some fun. I am certain that Mr. Milliken, who embodied these qualities, would approve.

*Nora Nassri '08
Milliken Scholar*



Nassri's senior class photo in 2008



Marion's senior class photo in 2008

Letters of Encouragement

Through his generosity to Converse College and unwavering support of its academic programs, Roger Milliken made an indelible mark on my life. The Milliken family provided me with the gift of a Converse education. The Millikens’ support of the visual arts at Converse also had a huge impact on my studies as I chose to pursue a degree in interior design. The strength of my Converse degree led me to receive a fellowship to pursue graduate work, and the practical skills that I learned have propelled me forward professionally.

I will always remember the letters that Mr. Milliken wrote to me as a Converse student. Every spring, each of the scholarship recipients was asked to write a letter to the donor of their scholarship telling them a little about themselves and their academic pursuits. I was so surprised when I received a letter back from Mr. Milliken after my first year at Converse. Each year, he responded with a letter, and during my senior year even asked me to consider working at Milliken after graduation. It always struck me that Mr. Milliken, a corporate executive who I am quite sure had many more important things on his priority list, would take the time to personally write me a letter. I have kept each of his letters and think of him fondly each time I look at them. Although Mr. Milliken has passed away, his legacy will forever live on through the many Converse students whose lives were enriched by his generous spirit.

*Sarah Marion '08
Project Manager, MCON Construction Co.
Milliken Scholar*

Carrying on Their Legacy

More than 30 years ago, I was one of the direct beneficiaries of Mr. and Mrs. Milliken’s generosity. Arriving on the shores of the USA as a penniless refugee, I was overwhelmed with the then-seemingly endless barriers in my paths of assimilation and education. However, Mr. and Mrs. Milliken’s endowment at Converse College afforded me, as one of its first Milliken Scholars, the opportunity to learn and to acquire not only the academic knowledge but also the largeness of the noble humanity of those who made this country great.

May all of us have enough skills to carry on their legacy, courage to emulate their humanity and strength to pass on their generosity.

*Lan T. Nguyen Shortt '81
Managing Partner, Shortt & Nguyen, P.C. Attorneys & Counselors at Law, Houston, TX
Milliken Scholar*

To read more about Lan Nguyen Shortt '81 and her amazing story from refuge to a powerhouse attorney, see page 15.



Nguyen Shortt (center) 1981 Converse yearbook

EVERY GREAT STUDENT

VIEW

from the Top

Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great.
~ Mark Twain

For those who aspire to be a glamorous actress, a high-ranking political official or a famous author, the opportunity for one-on-one meetings with real-life role models can be few and far between...unless, of course, you are a member of the Converse community. During the 2010 fall term, visiting guests Jill Lawrence, actress of the hit show *Law & Order*, South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley, nationally-recognized artist Bill Dunlap and award-winning author Thomas E. Kennedy shared real-life lessons from years of hard-fought experience forging careers in the political arena, publishing, printmaking and television.



SC Governor Nikki Haley

Haley's Comment

On October 20, South Carolina Governor-elect Nikki Haley took a break from the campaign trail to visit Converse and talk with students about her passion for public service and the challenges and opportunities that are unique to women in the political arena. Converse senior and Politics major Karlen Senn, who serves as chair of the South Carolina College Republican Federation, led the initiative to bring Haley to the Converse campus. "Young women interested in politics have few female role models in South Carolina," says Senn. "I believe it is important for us to learn all we can from the women who are paving the way."

Students, staff, faculty and members of the Spartanburg community listened as Haley shared personal stories about her roots in Bamberg, the challenges she faced during her first job out of college and the balancing act of running for office while being a wife and mother. "There is nothing that I have experienced...well," Haley laughed, "there is nothing that I have experienced that I can say was different because I was a woman," she said. "It was challenging, and I think maybe a man would've related to it differently,

or maybe there would have been different dynamics to it. But we really need to get out of the gender issue. We need to get out of the race issue. We need to get out of the age issue. What I want you to remember is, when you come across a challenge, don't say, 'I can't do it,' say, 'How do we get it done?' That's the key to going forward."

Haley also spoke about the need to encourage women to run for office in South Carolina, which has the lowest percentage of female elected office-holders in the country. "As you go forward in life, whether it's in politics, whether it's in business, whether it's in medicine, whether it's in teaching, don't do something just because it's a job," she said. "If you're going to do it, be great at it. If you're going to do it, make sure people remember you because you were there. That's when you will have a satisfaction in your life and that you know there was a purpose."

A student-moderated question and answer forum followed Haley's speech and allowed audience members the opportunity to direct questions to Haley. According to Senn, the night was a motivating experience, "Haley's message encouraged us to adopt an outlook that fosters self-confidence." On November 2, 2010, Nikki Haley was elected as the first female governor in the state of South Carolina.



Bill Dunlap (on right) with Andrew Blanchard

What's all the Hub-Bub about?

"Damn that was fun!" says Andrew Blanchard, associate professor of studio art, printmaking and photography, was the resounding comment from those who attended visiting artist Bill Dunlap's events at Converse the first week of October. Dunlap came to campus to lecture on his work and serve as the juror for the *Emerging Carolinas* art exhibition. For the show, Converse College partnered with HUB-BUB of downtown Spartanburg to present the work of young, contemporary artists between the ages of 20 and 35 who resided in or attended a higher education institution within North or South Carolina.

Dunlap is a celebrated American artist whose work has been collected by such prestigious museums as Corcoran Museum of Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Ogden Museum of Southern Art. "Bill Dunlap is widely respected in the international art scene—a force to be reckoned with," said Blanchard. "He works hard to positively motivate younger artists; he has opened quite a number of doors for me in terms of his connections, which he is more than willing to share, I must say. His work is vastly collected by major names in popular culture, as well as the political sector—not only in the South—but on a grander scale. For our students to have heard him speak (and a few were accepted into the show, too) is one of those moments

I hope they will look back upon and realize the significance."

Nearly 60 artists from the Carolinas submitted work for consideration. Dunlap narrowed the lot to 27 artists, including Converse students Carly Drew '11 and Sarah Hamilton '11, and selected the winners prior to the official opening. Cash prizes were awarded for Best in Show (\$1,250), First Place (\$750) and Second Place (\$500).

Dunlap in action



Jill Lawrence brings “Law & Order” to the South Carolina Theatre Association

Actress Jill Lawrence, a member of the hit TV series *Law & Order*, served as the keynote speaker and led several master classes during the South Carolina Theatre Association Conference held at Converse in November. Hundreds of theatre students and teachers from high schools, colleges and community theatres from across South Carolina descended upon the campus to take part in the 44th annual event. The convention was open to the public and featured 22 high school productions, three community theatre productions and a series of master classes on such diverse topics as: scene painting, creating a light lab, relaxation techniques, character makeup, auditioning for film and TV, playwriting and stage combat.

Opening the convention was Theatre/Converse's production of *The Autumn Ghost Radio Hour Presents: "Oh, Horrors"* by Converse theatre faculty member Brent Glenn. According to Glenn, the conference provided students the chance to be a part of the collaborative artistic community that is thriving at Converse. "It was great fun to be able to perform the *Radio Hour* for college and high school students across the state. It was also a great opportunity to show students the unique nature of our highly collaborative program here at Converse and the wonderful synergy that develops when creative artists come together through dance, acting, writing and music."

In addition to Lawrence, the conference featured guest Linda Eisen from Coastal Talent, a professional talent agency that represents actors who have appeared in principle roles in feature films, TV and

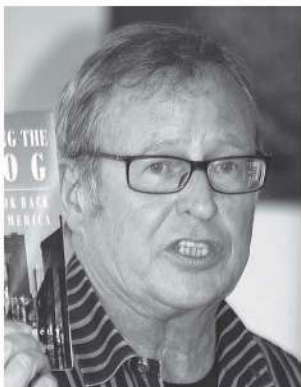


Jill Lawrence

industrial films. Eisen led a discussion about acting as a profession and covered topics such as agent representation, acting opportunities in the southeast (theatre, film, television) and what makes a good headshot. "Bringing visitors such as Lawrence and Eisen to campus benefit Converse students in more ways than one," says Glenn. "Theatre is a business, a very complicated business, and it is important for our young students to learn from those who have successfully navigated its waters. Performers sell a specific and unusual product: Themselves. Learning how to market your look and talent is very unusual and something you generally don't get to experience until after college. Opportunities like this give our students at Converse an inside look at the practical nature of the business arts."



The Autumn Ghost Radio Hour presents: "Oh Horrors"



Thomas E. Kennedy

The Rest of the Story

"As a writing student at Converse, and as a writer in our community, you're going to have opportunities to engage in some very exciting dialogue with outstanding writers," says Rick Mulkey, director of creative writing, director of MFA in creative writing and associate professor of English at Converse. Case in point, Thomas E. Kennedy, an American Expatriate novelist, story writer and critic, visited Converse on November 16 as part of the Elizabeth Boatwright Coker Visiting Writers series. Kennedy gave a reading of his latest novel, *In the Company of Angels*, recently acclaimed in *The New Yorker* and the *Chicago Tribune*, among others.

Kennedy is the author of 26 books, including *Unreal City*, *Realism & Other Illusions: Essays on the Craft of Fiction*, and *Kerrigan's Copenhagen*, *Bluett's Blue Hours*, *Danish Fall*, and, most recently, *In the Company of Angels*, all set in his adopted home of Copenhagen, Denmark. When asked to describe how the Converse community benefits when talented, high-profile authors visit our campus, Mulkey said, "When I see student writers in a classroom at Converse, I think these students should feel they are at an undergraduate writing program as strong as any in the country."

One way we've done this at Converse has been to show them the caliber of the poets and writers who want to come and speak with them. So now our students, writers and readers from the community have a number of opportunities to sit down over lunch or after a class and talk with award-winning authors like Thomas E. Kennedy, Joyce Carol Oates, Terrence Hayes, Albert Goldbarth and Ellen Bryant Voigt. Bringing visiting writers with national and international reputations for excellence exposes our students and the community to the best writers at work today."

CONVERSE NEWS



Ride On!

Ending a 15-year hiatus, fall 2010 marked the triumphant return of the equestrian program at Converse. With Converse Head Coach Grand Prix Rider Lincoln Russell and Assistant Coach Crystal Bohnen leading the way, the equestrian team will compete in all English disciplines as a member of the Intercollegiate Horseshow Association (IHSA), the oldest and largest nationally competitive college riding program in the United States. Converse Athletic Director Joy Couch says the reinstatement of the equestrian program offers students more than just a chance to compete. "Our student-athletes have a unique opportunity to participate in building and advancing the program while riding with a collegiate team and working with highly skilled, professional trainers at Motlow Creek Equestrian Center."

The College's Equestrian Program Director Sally Frick has high hopes for the team. "The season has already produced several success stories. The mere fact that we have a team is a highlight," said Frick. "Beyond that, we have performed well in the first half of our show season; the team also travelled to Foxboro in Thomson, GA, the home of the Belle Meade hunt, for intensive practice and team bonding." In addition to winning several classes at the shows, Kathleen Coker '14 was awarded 'high point rider' for the show at Lander University.

Sneak Preview

In September, Converse previewed its Valkyries equestrian team at Motlow Creek Equestrian Center in Campobello, SC. Alumnae, student athletes, parents and supporters attended the exhibition show and participated in a live auction to raise funds for the team.



Keep track of the Valkyries at www.converse.edu/athletics

Converse Soccer on a Roll

In December, the Converse soccer team was awarded the inaugural Team Sportsmanship Award for the Conference Carolinas in women's soccer. They joined Erskine's women's volleyball, Queens men's soccer, Lees-McRae men's cross country and Belmont Abbey women's cross country as the conference's inaugural program winners for the award.



"The sportsmanship awards are presented annually to the member institution judged to have exhibited the highest degree of sportsmanship among its players, coaches and fans during their regular playing season," stated the league office.

"This year marks the first year that there will be an individual sport Team Sportsmanship Award highlighting Conference Carolinas' efforts to honor institutions exhibiting sportsmanlike behaviors."

The Valkyries graduated only two seniors in forward Freudna Mathurin and goalkeeper Ashley Mecuri, and look to return a strong nucleus for the 2011 season. Driving the charge will be new Converse Head Coach, John Constable. "We are really excited to have John Constable leading our soccer program," said Joy Couch, director of athletics at Converse. "John has a great deal of experience as a collegiate and professional player, and has become quite accomplished during his young coaching career. He has proven to be a relentless recruiter, and superb developer of talent at the Division II level."

Constable comes to Converse from Delta State University in Cleveland, MS, where he served as the men's and women's assistant soccer coach under head coach Jim Allen. Prior to that, he served a two-year stint as the graduate assistant for both soccer programs at the University. "I am delighted to be taking over as head soccer coach at Converse" said Constable. "With the help of the fine young ladies in the program, Converse soccer will progress from strength to strength; in the classroom, in the community and on the field."





Valkyries Swim Team Makes History

In only its second year of existence, the Valkyries swim team made history at Converse by finishing their regular season undefeated in dual meets. "This was the team's goal since day one, not mine or Coach Kunkler's but the team's," commented Assistant Swim Coach Corey White. "They never lost sight of what they wanted to achieve. This is a well-deserved accomplishment for these young women, representing all the hard work they've put forth this year." In addition to going undefeated, the team set and achieved another goal of making All-Academic American with an overall 3.32 team GPA.

With several victories already under their belt, the team continues to gain momentum as it heads into its second conference championship meet in history with a promising outlook. "We've had an amazing first half of the season with numerous lifetime best swims," says White. "We have a great opportunity to place top three as a team at conference and improve upon our times from December. I feel confident the team will pull it off."

Four Converse swimmers, including three freshmen, will go to nationals in San Antonio, TX in March, winning NCAA provisional cuts in several categories. Rhiannon Gluhosky '14 of Summerville, SC finds herself with national cuts in six categories. She broke the SCAD Invite record in December in the 400IM, and is only 1 second from breaking the Conference record. Gluhosky is currently ranked 8th in the nation for the 400IM. Teammate Jess Mason '14 of Greenville, SC also has a handful of national cuts in four events. She broke the SCAD Invite record in December in the 100 free and is ranked 20th in the nation in the 200IM and 200free. The third freshman, Christl Bradley '14 of Victoria, Canada, finds herself with two national cuts in the 400IM and 200fly. "In addition, teammates Hillary Johnson '14, Ashley Johnson '13 and Lucianne Kimura '10 are all ranked high for conference competition and look to make nationals as well," says White.

For the second year in a row, Weisiger scholar Jenni Russell '13 of Tega Cay, SC has qualified for nationals in the 200 breaststroke and 400IM. Russell is currently ranked 20th in the 200 breaststroke in the nation. Pointing to inspiration from the President of Converse, Jenni Russell says the team has had extra motivation this year with their "presidential" practice partner. "Every Wednesday at 6:30 in the morning, President Fleming is in the pool with us. It's fun to see her on our turf and have her experience a little bit of our training. She understands the hard work that goes into becoming a winning team, and I'm glad that we get to share that with her."

Weisiger scholar Jesse Pope '14 of Keenesaw, GA helped lead the Valkyries to a third place finish at the SCAD invite contributing in many relays and individual events. Pope also stands a chance to make it to nationals. "Teamwork is at the core of this season's success," says White. "Our success this year is tied to every one of our swimmers, and they know that. It's awesome to see them supporting and pushing one another in and out of the pool."



Case 2010 SC Professor of the Year Dr. Monica McCoy

Dr. Monica McCoy has long been dubbed one of the coolest professors on the Converse campus, but that unofficial title was trumped by the real deal. Singled out as one of the most outstanding undergraduate professors in the country, Dr. McCoy was distinguished as the CASE 2010 South Carolina Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

A charismatic red-head with a fierce devotion to the students she teaches, Dr. McCoy is the chair of the Department of Psychology and a leading expert in the field of child abuse and neglect. An advocate for service learning, Dr. McCoy's students fully expect to get real-world experience when taking her classes. In fact, this hands-on component of the curriculum is praised by her students as one of the most valuable parts of their coursework. In 2008, Dr. McCoy was honored with a "Friends of the Children" award by the Spartanburg Children's Shelter for her commitment to encouraging students to take on volunteer roles at the shelter.

More than a teacher, McCoy is lauded by her colleagues as a mentor and a role model, and tireless in her efforts to ensure that her students succeed long after they graduate. "Monica is a change-agent on our campus, a teacher who goes to great lengths to nurture in students a deep understanding of their ability to effect positive change in the world. As a role model, researcher and teacher, Monica has a way of raising students' expectations of themselves," says President Betsy Fleming.

Asked about the fancy CASE plaque that is hanging in her office, McCoy is quick to deflect the honor with a humorous quip that speaks



Dr. McCoy and Gabe Hoffmann '09

volumes about her character in the classroom, "Finally, I can prove to my students how lucky they are to have me as a professor!"

As for the ever-increasing popularity of the Converse psychology department, McCoy maintains, "we can't take all of the credit for having a popular major. Psychology is intrinsically interesting to most people. After all, we get to study what makes people behave the way they do. It isn't too difficult to convince students that many of the topics we cover—from aggression to psychological disorders to attraction to conformity to sex—are fun things to think about! I also think it helps that we have a great group of faculty."

For up-to-the-minute Converse news and events, visit www.converse.edu/news-events



Cheryl Lang, CPA and Professor Pletcher

Ann Pletcher Named 2010 Accounting Professor of the Year

As a college freshman, Ann Pletcher had her sights set on teaching French in high school, but her students today will tell you she now speaks an entirely different language as a professor of Accounting and Economics. In recognition of Pletcher's excellence in classroom teaching and active involvement in the accounting profession, the South Carolina Association of Certified Public Accountants named her the 2010 Accounting Educator of the Year. She accepted her award from SCACPA during the association's CPA summit and annual meeting held in Columbia in November. "I was surprised and honored to receive this award," said Pletcher. "There are many fine accounting educators in the state of South Carolina at our public and private universities who would be deserving of this honor. I have always loved teaching so to be recognized by the South Carolina Certified Public Accountants is very rewarding."

A member of the Converse faculty since 1984, Pletcher teaches Intermediate Accounting I, Business and Accounting Information Systems, Cost Accounting I & II, Advanced Accounting, Managerial Accounting, Senior Seminar and Student Success Seminars. In 2002, she won the Kathrynne Amelia Brown Award for excellence in teaching. In addition to her role as a professor, Pletcher advises undeclared freshmen and accounting majors. She also serves as the director of institutional research.

Converse Leads With National Honors

Converse kicked off the 2010 academic year with big news and headlines that suggest the momentum at Converse is making an impact. The College is listed in *U.S. News & World Reports'* popular annual rankings as the #1 Best Value in the South and #15 overall for Regional Universities in the South. *Forbes* also released their 2010 rankings of America's Best Colleges, placing Converse 4th highest in South Carolina.

And, the accolades don't stop there; Converse was rated in the top 25% of Master's universities by *Washington Monthly*. The Washington, DC based publication evaluated institutions based on their contributions to the public good in three broad categories:

- Social mobility: recruiting and graduating low-income students
- Research: producing cutting edge scholarship and PhDs
- Service: encouraging students to give something back to their country



"*Washington Monthly's* ranking criteria mirror Converse's strengths," said President Fleming. "We have taken bold steps to advance all three areas, including the introduction of a new scholarship program this fall called The Converse Commitment, the development of a robust student research program that has been awarded more funding than any other institution from South Carolina Independent Colleges & Universities for the past three years, and a commitment to student service that resulted in more than 8,500 service hours last academic year alone."

Lever Honored with Auditorium

On December 9, the Converse family lauded Joe Ann Lever's life-time commitment to Converse with the naming of Lever Auditorium in Kuhn Hall. Recently renovated from top-to-bottom to meet LEED certification standards, this building was once home for the beloved Biology professor known by all as Dean Lever. "If the walls of Kuhn could talk," said Lever, "it would be fun to go back in time. I had the privilege of teaching incredibly talented students. Every year the freshmen got younger looking and every year my hair got a little more gray!"

Lever was on the vanguard of women in education when she accepted the job of instructor of Biology at Converse in 1962. In the span of her career she went on to hold several posts, including: Associate professor of Biology, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, president of the Faculty Senate, chairwoman for academic advisors and director of Career Services. Her distinguished career would take several pages to note, but her passion for Converse could be summed up in two words: "the students."

Lever's journey with students was always a personal one. She encouraged and challenged the women of Converse at every opportunity. Her colleagues will tell you that she often believed in her students more than they believed in themselves. But that, they say, was the magic she possessed—teaching students to see their future as one of limitless possibilities. Hundreds of Dean Lever's students went on to successful careers in biology, medicine and the health professions, and remarkably she continues to keep in touch with many of them.

Still a presence on campus, an active donor to the College and a revered colleague, Lever continues working on behalf of women, especially, said President Betsy Fleming. Converse women. "It is fitting to know that this state-of-the-art auditorium in Kuhn will be a place where ideas, debate and creative exploration take place on a daily basis, and that every student in Lever Auditorium will benefit from Joe Ann Lever's love of the very same academic ideals. This is a marvelous way to say thank-you to Joe Ann for all that she has given to Converse."



Lever in the 1973 Converse yearbook

THE Sounds OF A Century

PETRIE SCHOOL OF MUSIC
1910 - 2010



On Thursday, October 28, the Converse community honored 100 years of world-class music with a gala concert titled *The Sounds of a Century* featuring alumni, students and faculty of the Petrie School of Music. Music lovers of all ages joined together in this historical retrospective commemorating the last century and celebrating the future. Performers included Kimilee Bryant '88, Wael Farouk MM '06, Elizabeth Child '77, Ann Ratteree Herlong '51, Anna Steenerson '03 and Richard Troxell MM '88. The concert also featured The Converse Trio performing a movement of *Café Music* by Paul Schoenfield '67, the Spartanburg Festival Chorus, Converse Chorale, Converse Wind Ensemble and Converse Symphony Orchestra.



- Clockwise from top:
1. Anna Steenerson '03
 2. The centennial ice sculpture
 3. The Converse Symphony Orchestra
 4. Centennial concert performers taking a final bow
 5. Ann Ratteree Herlong '51
 6. The Converse Trio
 7. The Converse Wind Ensemble and Chorale



A Thousand Thanks & Petrie Centennial Reception



2010 Dexter Edgar Converse Award Presentation

On October 28, Converse College presented the Dexter Edgar Converse Award to Agnes and Ed Weisiger for their philanthropy, leadership and significant commitment to the revitalization of the athletic program at Converse. In receiving the highest honor that the College bestows, the North Carolina couple joins the most distinguished roster of Converse benefactors.

Agnes Weisiger '63, a Trustee of Converse from 1996 to 2007, and her husband Ed have given to Converse with passion and purpose. In 2001, their leadership generosity launched the construction of the Weisiger Center and enabled the restart of competitive intercollegiate athletics at Converse. As the home of the Valkyries, this facility provides student-athletes with year-round training capabilities, full-time coaches and a study hall. From fall 2006 to today, Converse has grown its student-athlete population from 36 to 112 students who compete in eight intercollegiate sports. Converse competes within the NCAA Division II Conference Carolinas, the highest level of any women's college in the country.

Applauding the Weisigers' tremendous contributions over the years, President Betsy Fleming noted that one of the primary reasons for the incredible success of the athletic program in recruiting top talent both on the playing field and in the classroom is Agnes and Ed's establishment of the endowed Weisiger Outstanding Scholar Athlete Scholarship Program and Weisiger Cup. "Our Weisiger Scholar Athletes excel academically and athletically and aspire to pursue careers in the sciences, following Agnes's career in healthcare and the couples' shared passion for athletic competition," said Fleming. "In addition, the magnificent sterling silver Weisiger Cup is awarded each year at Founder's Day. This award provides the College with the opportunity to celebrate a graduating Converse student-athlete who has distinguished herself as a servant leader and an incredible team player—both apt descriptions of Agnes and Ed." **Mark your calendars for the 2011 Thousand Thanks celebration on Thursday, October 20!**





Celebrating Years of CONVERSE'S "I Can" SPIRIT

For over 120 years, Converse women have owned a mindset of "I can." This attitude has enabled Converse to evolve, realizing our promise to advance women for personal and professional success. Converse women have developed the capacity "to see clearly, decide wisely and act justly." These women of purpose and passion shout, "I can" when others whisper, "I cannot."

You can help Converse continue this legacy with your support of the Converse Annual Fund. By choosing "I can" today, your gift will advance our collective spirit of "I can" for generations to come.

Support the Converse Annual Fund today! Visit www.converse.edu/giving or contact Allyson Tesh at 864.596.9053 or allyson.tesh@converse.edu

Honor and Memorial Gifts

June 1, 2010 - December 31, 2010

HONOR GIFTS

2010-2011 TENNIS TEAM
Wallace F. Pate Fellow Man Foundation

SHAYNA R. ABRAMS '91
Brian Tatro

KELLY BROOKE ADAMS '14
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Clayton Adams

MR. AND MRS. JOHN ALFORD
Kathy and Edgar Chancellor

ALUMNAE OFFICE STAFF
Jane Marion Wilson '04

BETSY SHEPHERD ANCRUM '54
Ann Douglass Gibson Nichols '54

VICKI HARMAN ARMOR '80
Mr. and Mrs. James R. Harman

STEPHANIE ELDRIDGE AVAKIAN '99
Marty B. Mazer

BESSIE RICE BALL '44
Mary Frances Morgan '43

ELIZABETH BULL BALTHAZOR '95
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Bull

BRITTANY MAREE BASS '12
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Bass

MARY RAINEY BELSER '69
Charlotte Smith Purrington '69

ALISON ROSE BLOCK '99
Marty B. Mazer

KATHRYN ASHLEY BRACKETT '03
Elaine Brackett

DR. NANCY S. BREARD
Virginia Gibson Pratt '07

ALLENE CUDD BURGESS '38
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Burgess III

DANIELA MARIE BURROWS '09
Mr. and Mrs. James M. Burrows III

CAROL C. CANCEINNE '99
Marty B. Mazer

MR. AND MRS. TONY CASSADONTE
Kathy and Edgar Chancellor

SALLY HARMON CAUGHMAN '68
Elizabeth Morris Howell '68

CATHERINE LAKE CAUTHEN '89
Wallace Scales Davison '89

BETTY HOOD CAVAN '58
Lynn Peterson Jones '58

ANTIGONE VAKESIA CHILDS '10
Dennis and Tracy Childs

MELANIE MEYER CLARK '11
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gregory Meyer

CLASS OF 1971
Jane Byrd Melton '71

CLASS OF 2007
Laura Caroline Goodman '07

CLASS OF 2008
Lindsay Alyssa Daniel '08

CLASS OF 2010
Nicole Marie Dumouchel '10

ANN CLEMENTS
Amy Tibbals Morales '86

KIMBERLY HOWELL CLOBES '99
Marty B. Mazer

STEVE C. COOK
Wallace F Pate Fellow Man Foundation

ELIZABETH ROBBINS COOPER '99
Marty B. Mazer

POLLY BUTLER CORNELIUS '91
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard C. Butler, Sr.

NANCY BAIN COTÉ '79
Grazier Connors Rhea '74

JOY A. COUCH
Elisabeth Kinney McNiel '89

ROBERTA TIMMONS DANIEL '71
Mary Myatt Bowman '70

ALLISON LEANN DAVIS '14
Mr. and Mrs. John M. Davis

JANIS I. DENGLER
Helen Tucker Bailes '66
Sharon Gould Boyd '72
Deborah D. Dawsey '87 MEd
Sydney C. Harris
Caroline R. Klages
Sharon E. Lambert
Theresa G. Lassiter
Joe Ann Lever
Kathryn J. Long
Dr. and Mrs. Nathaniel F. Magruder
Margaret S. Moore
Pamela J. Nienhuis
Doris P. Painter
Sara S. Pilley
Christine Williamson Pringle '93
Martha E. Rogers
Ann Scott
Katharine Stephens Slemenda '66
Ann Marie Sullivan '95 MEd
Marie-Claude Wall
Jo-Anne Welch
Linda Yates

JORDAN B. DENSKI '12
Mark Francis Denski

MR. AND MRS. CARLTON DUGGAN
Kathy and Edgar Chancellor

NANCY BROWN FOSTER DUKE '55
Jane Powell Crowder '57

DR. JOE DUNN
Beth Spencer Dixon '86

ANGELA GAINNEY EICHER '99
Marty B. Mazer

LOUISA TINDALL FAILE '92
Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Tindall, Sr.

SARAH FARNABY '99
Marty B. Mazer

ERIN RANDLE FOIL '99
Marty B. Mazer

PAGE SPILLANE FOWLER '95
Mr. and Mrs. William M. Spillane

DR. PATRICIA SOLESBEE FOY '77
Dr. Donald G. Henderson

ALLISON OLIVIA GANT '11
Mr. and Mrs. Edmund R. Gant, Jr.

EDMUND R. GANT
Mr. and Mrs. Edmund R. Gant, Jr.

GINNA GILBERT
Kathy and Edgar Chancellor

MR. AND MRS. KIRVEN GILBERT
Kathy and Edgar Chancellor

MR. AND MRS. PEARCE GILBERT
Kathy and Edgar Chancellor

GILLIAN WHITE GOODRICH '68
Mr. and Mrs. Charles James Sullivan III
(Mary Lee White '70)

MERYL SYDNEY GRANT '99
Marty B. Mazer

DOROTHY ORMOND GRIER '50
Mr. and Mrs. Riley Grier
(Alice Denman '78)

CAROLEN BELCHER HANSARD '56
Della C. Black
Janet P. Deal
Mr. and Mrs. H. Daniel DeFoor
Leanne Hand
Emmett Marshall James
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Locke
Leonard T. Matteson
Sandra R. Mayer
Edna Earle McGaha
Mr. and Mrs. Max E. Prescott
Venetia P. Rouse
Alan E. Slappey
Lisa Slappey
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Standridge, Sr.

P. EMILY HARBIN '99
Marty B. Mazer

DEBORAH TINDALL HARGIS '86
Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Tindall, Sr.

ROBERT A. HARLEY
Nancy Reid Barksdale '72

JULIA DEANNE HARRIS '99
Marty B. Mazer

DR. DONALD G. HENDERSON
Alice Bryant Moore '68

MELISSA MEYER HEWITT '06
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gregory Meyer

DR. JOSEPH H. HOPKINS
Estate of Stuart Reavis Penn

KATHRYN SCHEUER HOPPER '99
Marty B. Mazer

DESIREE BRADLEY HOUSE '99
Marty B. Mazer

CATHERINE C. INABNIT '68
Sarah Evans Lockwood '69
Charlotte Smith Purrington '69

CAROL JOHNSON ISLER '77
Irene K. Johnson

JOHN F. JAMES
Alysandra Lippold Smith '05

JANELLE COTTER JENKINS '84
L. Arlen Cotter

MR. AND MRS. GEORGE DEAN JOHNSON, JR.
Mr. and Mrs. James S. Fulmer, Jr.
(Katherine Colburn '96)
Dr. and Mrs. J. Sidney Fulmer
(Lenna Moore '63)
Wallace Eppes Johnson '63
Mr. and Mrs. Jody Traywick
(Donna W. Traywick '82 MEd)

SUSAN PHIFER JOHNSON '65
Adair Phifer Crute '88
George Dean Johnson III

MR. AND MRS. COY JOHNSTON II
Phillip E. Richardson, Jr.

SARAH DIANE JURGENSEN '10
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jurgensen

LINDSEY ELIZABETH KELLY '11
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen S. Kelly, Jr.

DR. AND MRS. WILLIAM J. KIMBALL
Malinda and Charlie Tulloh

EMILY EDWARDS KOON '99
Marty B. Mazer

CLAIRE GIANNASI KURTZ '98
Mr. and Mrs. David E. Giannasi

DR. SHARON E. LAMBERT
Joe Ann Lever

JOE ANN LEVER
Sharon E. Lambert
Gayle Magruder

MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM B. LEVER
Dr. and Mrs. Nathaniel F. Magruder

DR. AND MRS. NATHANIEL MAGRUDER
Elizabeth Blanton Lewis '72
Malinda and Charlie Tulloh

ELIZABETH CLOUD MALLOY '48
Louise Malloy Bonner '75

NIKKI MAPLES-REYNOLDS '99
Marty B. Mazer

RON MARSH
Kathy and Edgar Chancellor

DR. SPENCER MATHEWS
V. Caroline Dilworth Minicozzi '95

E. T. MCLEAN, JR.
Mr. and Mrs. J. Robert Mauney

ELISABETH KINNEY MCNIEL '89
Mr. and Mrs. William L. Kinney, Jr.

DR. DONALD H. MCQUEEN III
Madison Hawley McQueen '10

CAREY DANCHO MERRIWEATHER '99
Marty B. Mazer

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES MORGAN
Malinda and Charlie Tulloh

PAULA SIGLER MORGAN '73
Donna Perry Vandiver '66

SABRA MCDANIEL MOSELEY '65
Robbie Moseley Richards '92

JENNIFER MARIE NOCKELS '99
Marty B. Mazer

CHARLOTTE GANT OLSON '87
Mr. and Mrs. Edmund R. Gant, Jr.

ELIZABETH ANNE OSWALT '02
Mr. and Mrs. Donald W. Oswalt

KRISTEN CAROLINE PACK '14
Tracy Pack

MR. AND MRS. RICHARD E. PARVEY
Phillip E. Richardson, Jr.

STEPHANIE NIVENS PENLEY '96
Barbara Nivens

MARCIE VANCE PORTER '99
Marty B. Mazer

DR. ROBERT W. POWELL, JR.
Anne Monsen Daniell '75
Nina Zouck Waite '68

MARIAN WILLIAMSON PRICE '65
Jeanette Wall Barnes '65

MR. AND MRS. HARRY QUALLS
Kathy and Edgar Chancellor

JENNIFER LOVETT RACKLEY '99
Marty B. Mazer

MARGARET LYLES RAMBISH '78
Dr. and Mrs. Clarence C. Lyles

DR. AND MRS. JAMES E. RATLIFF
Phillip E. Richardson, Jr.

JEANNE MCKEOWN REAVES '65
Amanda Reaves Campbell '92

GRAZIER CONNORS RHEA '74
James C. Rhea, III

SPENSER MORGAN ROBINSON '12
Mr. and Mrs. Derrick LaRue Robinson

PATRICIA BELFORD ROSENTHAL '99
Mr. and Mrs. William Lee Belford

MARY FRANCES SARVIS '14
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sarvis, Jr.

MR. AND MRS. ANDY SMITH
Kathy and Edgar Chancellor

NANCY ORDERS SMITH '75
William H. Orders

MARY W. SMITHEY
Pamela Smithey

GAIL DUFFIE STEBBINS '76
Grace Bailey Heck '76

DENISE HOWARD STEVENS '92
Justine Mason

ANNA MARGARET TAYLOR '11
Andrea Butler Taylor '79

JENNIFER BRADSHAW TILLEY '02
Major and Mrs. James S. L. Bradshaw

SALLY LAMBETH TREUTING '62
Anonymous

THEODORA WARREN TRUESDALE '74
Theodora Gregorie Warren '48

SARAH MARING VAN OS '73
Hilda Mills Horton '73

EVAN JAVIER VELEZ
Camille Hernandez Velez '92

ELIZABETH ANN WALKER '14
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Lee Walker

DR. JEFFREY R. WILLIS
Altrusa International, Inc. of Spartanburg

BETSY GANT WITTENMYER '80
Mr. and Mrs. Edmund R. Gant, Jr.

KYRA LEIGH WOODYARD '14
Mr. and Mrs. John Oliver Woodyard, Jr.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

DR. CHARLES D. ASHMORE
Virginia Ogletree Ashmore '42

DR. AND MRS. HENRY BAILEY
Claire Connors Wharton '76

BETTY PERSONS BALLARD
Elizabeth McClure Blumer '82

HARRIET ANCRUM BALLENGER '47
Mr. and Mrs. J. Tom Grier
(Dorothy Omond '50)
Mary Lib Spillers Hamilton '57
RADM and Mrs. Stephen I. Johnson
(Melissa Daves '69)
Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Lyles
(Florine France '47)
Polly Hill Woodham '51

JANE RICE BAMBERG '27
Mary Bamberg Frick '82

KELLEY HOLLABAUGH BARTGES '80
Class of 1980

ELIZABETH STEELE BEARDEN
Clara Childs Mackenzie '51
Frances Taylor Meissner '61

CATHERINE HAMRICK BEATTIE '45
Polly Hill Woodham '51

DIETER BECKMANN
Margaret Albright Bowers '91
Katherine Van Horne Trexler '91

JANE MCNAIR BELL '51
The Bell Family Foundation

MARTHA JANE CAMP BONUM '68
Gillian White Goodrich '68

NELLIE MAY BUEHLER
Paul David Buehler

JENNY KIMBREL BUNN '67
Suzanne Smith Jordan '67
Marjorie Martin Pierce '65
Jane Ferguson Watson '64

ELIZABETH WHITE CALVERT '84
Wallace Scales Davison '89
Jeffrey Folinus
Marilyn Mery '84
Sarah Haeflinger Tollison '84
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Tweddle

DR. KAREN CARMEAN
Nicolette Leia Castle '06

KATHRYN KING CAROW '33
Anne Carow Lian '68

SALLY HARMON CAUGHMAN '68
Adams Eaddy & Associates, Inc.
Alec H. Chaplin Co.

Jane Jackson Avinger '62
 Palmer Davison Ball '84
 Sandra Sherard Bethea '67
 Roseanne Wilson Boyce '74
 Eleanor Owings Burke '69
 Eleanor Weaver Carter '68
 Mr. and Mrs. H. Burton Case, Jr.
 Anne Ferguson Caughman '58
 J. W. Nelson Chandler
 Karen Corbett Cheatham '81
 Mr. and Mrs. Langdon Cheves
 (Kathryn Wyatt '67)
 Blair Blackwell Cooper '68
 Mr. and Mrs. George L. Corbin, Jr.
 Eugene Patrick Corrigan III
 Nancy Bain Coté '79
 Nancy Rainey Crowley
 Mr. and Mrs. James A. L. Daniel
 (Susan Bailey '68)
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Davidson, Sr.
 Ann W. Dibble
 Patricia Dod
 Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur S. Douglas, Jr.
 Carol Redding DuBose '74
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dunphy
 Mr. and Mrs. Blake Edmunds
 Heather K. Eldridge '97
 Susan Goldberg Ellison '71
 Gelene Duncan Ellsworth '63
 Elizabeth C. Everett
 Mr. and Mrs. Jack S. Folline
 (Elaine Finklea '58)
 Mr. and Mrs. Brian Frerichs
 (Catharine Williams '92)
 Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Gibbs
 Gillian White Goodrich '68
 Laura Anne Greenberg
 Caroline G. Grimbail '68
 Brooks Sanders Hamilton '67
 Carlisle Caughman Harvard '63
 Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Hendricks
 Mr. and Mrs. A. Baron Holmes IV
 (Sue Wyatt '72)
 Catherine C. Inabnit '68
 Mr. and Mrs. George Dean Johnson, Jr.
 (Susan Phifer '65)
 J. Thomas Johnson
 Mr. and Mrs. Steve Johnson
 (Patricia Downes '70)
 Ron L. Jowers
 James O. Kempson
 Mr. and Mrs. Curtis C. Kimbrell
 Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Kline
 Mr. and Mrs. Jean E. Lanier
 (Judith Webb '68)
 Laurel Crest Retirement Center
 Dr. and Mrs. Frank B. Lee, Jr.
 Elisabeth Lucas Marchant '68
 Mr. and Mrs. James B. Mayo
 Mr. and Mrs. Bill McWilliams
 (Sally Bates '74)
 Nancy Beasley Meldram '68
 Louise Harris Meriwether '68
 Robin Colyer New '75
 Ann Wallace Nichols '68
 Dr. and Mrs. John V. Nicholson, Jr.
 (Ellen McMaster '68)
 Nancy Davis Nickles '56

Ann Carol Hall Price '61
 Sarah Adderton Redd '62
 Mr. and Mrs. Randall Robinson
 (Katharine Shertzer '68)
 Dr. and Mrs. March Seabrook
 (Anne Richardson '82)
 Mr. and Mrs. Gordon B. Sherard, Jr.
 Anne S. Smith
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Stanland, Jr.
 Frances Owings Stone '70
 Margaret Charles Stubbs '63
 Trinity Episcopal Cathedral Sunday Morning
 Breakfast Crew
 Virginia Cleveland Walker '67
 Mr. and Mrs. David Watson
 (Jane Ferguson '64)
 Dr. and Mrs. Bruce W. White, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. Wain L. White
 Mr. and Mrs. Scott Williams
 (Katherine Dod '99)
 Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wilson
 (Rhett Fair '63)
 Mrs. Lloyd Wood

DR. FRANCIS P. CHAMPION
 Lee Ullman Hutson '78

MIN MURRAY HASELDEN CHEVES '68
 Elizabeth Morris Howell '68

CHINCHEE (MARTHA BEALE'S DOG)
 Debra J. Griggs '75

ALICE BURNETT CLEVELAND 1905
 Harriet Dobbins Martin '69

CAROLYN MARY FAWCETT CONVERSE
 Mr. and Mrs. Augustus T. Allen
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Allen
 Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Joel Atkins
 Mr. and Mrs. Steve Baldwin, Jr.
 John Bauknight IV
 Mr. and Mrs. John W. Beeson, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. John R. Belk
 W. Scott Brandon
 Mr. and Mrs. George Brandt III
 (Mary Nell Rogers '73)
 Dan C. Breeden, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Cannon
 (Marjorie Coddington '62)
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Carr, Jr.
 (Bonnie Goldston '63)
 Donna R. Cart
 Mr. and Mrs. MacFarlane L. Cates, Jr.
 Elizabeth Syfan Chapman '53
 James David Cobb
 Conrad & Company, CPAs
 Mr. and Mrs. Stanley W. Converse
 Walter C. Converse
 Mr. and Mrs. Martin S. Cornelson
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul J. Coté
 (Nancy Bain '79)
 Nancy Rainey Crowley
 Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Cubitt
 (Dodie Magarahan '66)
 Mr. and Mrs. Jamie Cubitt
 Elaine T. Freeman
 Mr. and Mrs. William P. Gee

Mr. and Mrs. J. Tom Grier
 (Dorothy Ormond '50)
 Mary Lib Spillers Hamilton '57
 Mr. and Mrs. Lawson Hayes, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. George Dean Johnson, Jr.
 (Susan Phifer '65)
 Mr. and Mrs. Ed Mabry
 Mary Ellen Jennings McElhenney '45
 Mr. and Mrs. Tom J. McKittrick
 Virginia Manning Moses '44
 Mr. and Mrs. John Murphy
 (Susan Craig '64)
 National Coal Corporation
 Paul Okuliar
 Carolyn Duer Pennell '50
 Richard H. Pennell, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. Edward Patterson Perrin
 The Piedmont Club
 Dr. and Mrs. Jan H. Postma, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. L. Perrin Powell
 Mr. and Mrs. Norman Pulliam, Sr.
 Martha Page Roddenberry
 Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Rogers, Jr.
 Dr. B. Holland Satterfield, Jr.
 Dr. Bryan Satterfield and staff
 Mr. and Mrs. G. Garrett Scott
 Mr. and Mrs. Sam B. Shackelford, Jr.
 Carter A. Smith
 Christie Smith
 Mr. and Mrs. Ron G. Smith
 June A. Steven
 Mr. and Mrs. George E. Stone
 Mr. and Mrs. John R. Sullivan
 (Ann Marie Sullivan '95 MED)
 Mr. and Mrs. George C. Todd, Jr.
 Mr. and Mrs. Burnham Uhler
 (June McIntosh '64)
 Mr. and Mrs. Ted Wagner
 Mr. and Mrs. Edward I. Weisiger, Jr.
 (Elizabeth Bell '84)
 Mr. and Mrs. John B. White, Jr.
 (Karen Moore '72)
 Mr. and Mrs. W. Lewis White
 Thomas D. Wood
 Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Zurenda
 (Susan Beckham '77)

EMMA PALMER COVINGTON '47
 Florence Covington Fitzgerald '80

TENNESSEE CALHOUN CRAWFORD '23
 Martha Williams DeCaro '70

LOUISE HUNT CROSLAND '55
 Hagood Huckabee Potter '55

DR. PERRY DANIELS
 Debra Hudson Harres '75
 Ross A. Magoulas '56

DONNA DILL '89
 Wallace Scales Davison '89

KATHLEEN MORGAN DONNELLY '45
 Mary Frances Morgan '43

JOHN F. DULKEN
 Ysabel deVignier Dulken

NANCY SIBLEY DUNN '54
Marjorie Williams Fiorilla '54

DARLENE EARNEY '88
Belinda Earney Dudley '83

ELIZABETH MILLER ELLER '53
Barbara Helms Cook '53

JOHN ERICKSON
Susan Embry Naylor '73

AMY ESTES '73
Lyn Carlton Estes '71

RUSSELL W. FIKE '64
Elsie Boone Fike Schlaeger '74

ANNIE MAE HUGHES FLANIGAN
Christine Slavovsky Hughes '99

DR. HAROLD E. FLEMING
Mr. and Mrs. Charles James Sullivan III
(Mary Lee White '70)

MARIE WILLIAMS FLEMING
Mr. and Mrs. John M. Armstrong
J. Patrick Armstrong
Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Cannon
(Marjorie Coddington '62)
Hilda T. Cope
Mr. and Mrs. J. Wayne Dowd
Amy Hoover Frierson
Dr. and Mrs. W. Brownlee Lowry

JANE CARSON FRANCE '49
Mary Ellen Sitton Yeagin '49

GENEVIEVE MILLS GALLIVAN '44
Harold F. Gallivan, Jr.

ROGER GANT, JR.
Polly Hill Woodham '51

MARY WILSON GEE 1893
Eleanor Garner McCandless '41
Antoinette Jackson Myers '61
Nancy Reep Tait '50

ELIZABETH PRYOR GEORGE '57
Langhorne Lewis McCarthy '57

DR. VIRGINIA MCCALL GORE '44
Jane Rolandi Gray
Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Price

JO ELLEN JONES GRIGSBY '88
Wallace Scales Davison '89
Rebecca DuBard Grantland '88

BEATRICE AVERY HALL '66
Adelaide Reece Small '66

GEORGE KUGLAR HANKS III '75 MMus
Susan Jones Hanks '73

JEANNE SMITH HARLEY '73
Mr. and Mrs. Augustus T. Allen
Ambulatory Surgery Center of Spartanburg, LLC

Laura Bailey
Palmer Davison Ball '84
Nancy Reid Barksdale '72
Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Bradshaw, Sr.
(Julia Brewer '59)
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Breitweiser, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Cannon
(Marjorie Coddington '62)
Mr. and Mrs. William Z. Cannon
Carolina Alliance Bank
Mr. and Mrs. Terry L. Cash
Mr. and Mrs. MacFarlane L. Cates, Jr.
The Honorable and Mrs. Robert F. Chapman
Nancy Rainey Crowley
Dr. and Mrs. W. Mac Davis
Dr. and Mrs. Roger W. Deal
Mr. and Mrs. William Doolan
Mr. and Mrs. John P. Fruit
(Mary Ann Alford '63)
Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Gibbs
E. Anne Gillespie
Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Gilmore, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Goldstein
(Janice R. Goldstein '74 MAT)
Mr. and Mrs. John T. Gramling II
(Ellen Holmes '64)
Lucy Harper Grier
Mary Lib Spillers Hamilton '57
Harbour Town Yacht Club, Inc.
Cleveland S. Harley
Dr. James G. Harrison, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. William B. Howes
Sarah Chapman Jackson
Mr. and Mrs. George Dean Johnson, Jr.
(Susan Phiifer '65)
RADM and Mrs. Stephen L. Johnson
(Melissa Daves '69)
Mary Berry Johnston '72
Julia S. Jones
Ernest R. Kluttz
Ruth McCutchen Knight '75
Mr. and Mrs. William B. Lever
Broadus R. Littlejohn, Jr.
Alice B. Lucas
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Lytle
Mr. and Mrs. W. Fritz Mezger
Peter John Neidenbach, M.D.
Robin Colyer New '75
Mr. and Mrs. Ben K. Norwood, Jr.
(Marion Connor '56)
Carolyn Duer Pennell '50
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Patterson Perrin
Mack H. Pettit
Evelyn I. Randall
Anne Davis Ratliff '50
Rose Mary L. Ritchie
Mr. and Mrs. L. Terrell Sovey, Jr.
Dr. and Mrs. George M. Speed
Sally J. Spencer
Mr. and Mrs. Winston C. Taylor
Jacqueline R. Timms
Mr. and Mrs. Burnham Uhler
(June McIntosh '64)
Susan Dukes Webber '70
W. Lewis White
Mr. and Mrs. Don Wildman
(Alanna Ivey '71)
Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Zimmerli

BONNIE ASHLEY HARRIS '71
Jane Byrd Melton '71

RUTH WALSTON HARRIS '71
Jane Byrd Melton '71

JANE HEGGIE
Marjorie L. Heggie '83

ELIZABETH TURNER HERBERT '22
Elodie Hale Craig '74

ANNA KATE HERLONG '78
Elizabeth Hamer Chandler '51

DR. WALTER HESS
Nina Zouck Waite '68

MARY RIVERS HILLER '79
Hunter McClintock Bell '79

NANCY HOLLIS '71
Jane Byrd Melton '71

VIVIAN L. HOWE
Dr. and Mrs. Joe P. Dunn

JEAN POTTER KANODE
Spartanburg Philharmonic Music Club

DR. WILLIAM JOSEPH KOPP
Jean Elise Warren '75

BETSY POLK LAW '79
Maria Kain Matthews '79

ALIA ROSS LAWSON
Lillian Utsey Harder '67
Helen Rachel Lamb Jones '58

BERKELEY HAYNSWORTH LITTLE '70
Lesene Smith Dickson '67

DR. JERRIE LUCKTENBERG
Jane Rolandi Gray

ANN PLESS LUNGER '45
Grace Williams Gaither '45

JOHN RICHARDS MCCRAE
Dian Lawler-Johnson '74
Ross A. Magoulas '56

DR. ROGER A. MCDUFFIE, JR.
Patricia Parsons Hickerson '64

MARY ZELIME HARBY MCKEOWN '42
Amanda Reaves Campbell '92

ELIZABETH CAUTHEN MCLEAN '88
Wallace Scales Davison '89

PAUL W. MENGEL
Mr. and Mrs. J. Tom Grier
(Dorothy Ormond '50)

MR. AND MRS. ROBERT B. MILLER, JR.
Catherine Miller Alley '72

LLOYD WILLIAMS MOORE '37
Margaret Fulton Walker '45
Polly Hill Woodham '51

CORA VAN KEUREN NEAL '80
Class of 1980

MARY POULNOT NEFF '46
Marjory Poulnot MacLean '54

CECELIA QUANTZ NETTLES '63
Genevieve Steele Cummings '63
Nancy Thayer Jennings '63

DR. SANFORD H. NEWELL
Sarah Brown Stewart '72

DAWSON THOMPSON NICHOLSON '55
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Duke
(Nancy Brown '55)

EILEEN RAMSBOTTOM NOLEN '39
Janice Mack '70

MARY ADAIR EDWARDS PHIFER
Polly Hill Woodham '51

LAURA NANCE MCCAUGHRIN PICKENS '35
Laura Pickens Wagner '64

SUE BAXTER PICONE '57
Elisabeth Williams Crain '57

RACHEL PIERCE
Jane Briggs Rankin '63

DR. FRANK T. PLATT
Jane Rolandi Gray
Janet Johnston Saczawa '79

SALLY HOWE PLAXICO '71
Jane Byrd Melton '71

NANCY PHIFER RAINER '51
Polly Hill Woodham '51

HOLLY JOHNSTON RICHARDSON '78
Mr. and Mrs. Coy Johnston II

MR. AND MRS. PAUL SCHMIDT
Liselotte Martha Schmidt '54

REV PEGGY ROOHAN SCHMITZ '49
Martha Paxton Beale '49

SARAH BURNETT DENNIS SCOGGINS '44
Polly Hill Woodham '51

MARY LANIER SEMON '70
Mary Lee White Sullivan '70

BETSY HARPER SHELANDER '78
Ada Compton Holley '79

LELA LEE SHERBERT
Mary Carolyn Lavender '66

ANNE KNIGHT SHULER '41
Harriet Glasgow White '41

CLARA RAVENEL SMITH '38
Clara Smith Carter '64

CHRIS B. STAUBES, JR.
Robbie King Staubes '67

EMMA JANE STOCKTON '65
Sheryl Fendley Gillikin '67

ELIZABETH WHITEHEAD TAYLOR '36
Roberta Thomas Smith '59

CAROLINE MOORE TURNER '50
Carolyn Duer Pennell '50

MARY MOORE WANNAMAKER '54
Betsy Shepherd Ancrum '54

LEIGH ANNE WARD '97
Heather K. Eldridge '97
Deborah Ward Heritage

JEAN SACKETT WARREN '48
Kathryn Perry Bumgardner '75
Nancy Bain Côté '79
Mary Lib Spillers Hamilton '57
Melissa Daves Johnson '69
Julie Forbes Lybrand '75
Polly Hill Woodham '51

NANCY WHELESS
Lara A. Wheless '82

ELEANOR STANLEY WHITE
Jane Rolandi Gray

HARRIETT BULL WILDER '43
Mary Frances Morgan '43

DOROTHY OUZTS WILLIAMS '47
Dr. and Mrs. Edward R. Cathcart
Geraldine Roser Crenshaw '47
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Duke
(Nancy Brown '55)
Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Lyles
(Florine France '47)
Lalage Oates Warrington
Mr. and Mrs. J.E.B. Wilson
(Jane Marion '04)

PROFESSOR ELIZABETH WILLIAMS
Jane Taylor Patterson '48

RUTH SAULS WIMBISH '31
Suzanne Wimbish McElwee '68

C. RUDOLPH WOODS
Pamela Medeiros Woods '85

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. John P. Martin, Jr. Associate Professor Emeritus of Special Education, (1940-2011)

Dr. John P. Martin, Jr., 70, of Hume, VA, died Thursday, January 13, 2011. Dr. Martin retired as a professor and chairman of the Department of Special Education at Converse in 1999.

For 27 years, Dr. Martin served as associate professor of Special Education at Converse. From his first year on campus in 1972, he was at the forefront of special education not only in the College, but also in the community, state and region. He brought energy and vision to the task of expanding special education programs to include learning disabilities and emotional handicaps, and developed the master's degree program for special education teachers. Dr. Martin was a long-time chairman of the Spartanburg County Developmental Disabilities Board and received many awards for his work with parents of disabled children.



ALUMNAE NEWS

Alumnae Association President's Message

Serving as the Converse Alumnae Association President has been such a privilege for me. The traditions of our beloved institution continue to encourage sisterhood and the "I can" attitude of our community never ceases to amaze me. When we come together to accomplish a task, the results are awe-inspiring. The perfect example, the senior housing project has been completed and is magnificent! Achieving this milestone is the direct result of President Betsy Fleming's unwavering dedication to raising the funds necessary to initiate and complete this state-of-the-art facility. The short timeframe in which the funding was raised could not have been accomplished without the kind generosity of many alumnae, friends and individual benefactors believing in Converse.

The Petrie School of Music celebrated its 100th anniversary in October 2010 and for those of you who were not able to attend, it was an evening that made you proud to be associated with Converse—past, present and in the future.

Converse continues to give young women the tools to demonstrate "I can" in their personal and professional lives. Alumnae have earned graduate degrees in law, medicine, education, music, art, design, finance and theology, among others. They are leaders in their professions and communities. Our Converse education has enabled us to be creative thinkers, with the ability to say "I can" and shift with the ever-changing world.

I am proud to be a Converse alumna and want to do all that I can to see our alma mater continue to be a strong institution offering a liberal arts education and leadership skills to future young women. We have a rich history, with many traditions, but are also making strides for a strong future. Together "we can" strengthen Converse by referring students and contributing to the Converse Annual Fund.

Make plans to come to Reunion April 15 – 16, 2011. You will be able to see the fabulous additions and improvements to the facilities and feel the excitement of what is happening on campus.

All best,

Grazier

Grazier Connors Rhea '74
President



Alumnae Impact Service Day a Success!

Over 125 Converse alumnae, current students, faculty and staff gathered together as part of the Converse Impact Service Day on October 30, 2010. The Impact Service Day encourages the Converse community across the country to volunteer and serve their local communities on the same day. This year marks the first year that alumnae have organized and participated in this traditional student activity.

"We are so excited to have the first Impact Service Day involving Converse alumnae to be a success," said Elizabeth Oswalt '02. "This is an amazing opportunity for Converse women to utilize their collective power to make an impact in their community. We look forward to making this an annual endeavor."

Volunteers across the country worked with local organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, local Girl Scout Councils, shelters and various environmental groups. Many of these organizations were selected because they work towards advancing and supporting women and families, taking the lead from Converse's mission to advance the education of women. For more information about the next Converse Impact Service Day, please contact the Alumnae Office at alumnae@converse.edu.



Granddaughter's Club



Annsley Taylor Corson '14, daughter of Michelle Corson '86 MEd and granddaughter of Patricia DesChamps '80 MEd



Jessica Rose Postlewaite '14, great-granddaughter of Sally P. Kincaid



Amelia Ellen (Mia) Shaw '14, daughter of Kelly Florence Shaw '88



Kayla Shai Caudle '14, daughter of Kelly McAlhane '08

Missing photos:

Sarah Kate Chatel '14, stepdaughter of Sarah Mercer Chatel '79
Stella Law Ford '14, great-granddaughter of Dorothy Foster Law '40
Mariah Gray '14, stepdaughter of Ruth Gray Chapman '93

Kathleen Mayes Hines '14, daughter of Patricia Mayes Hines '70, granddaughter of Katie Beaty Mayes '41, and great-granddaughter of Janie Rhodes Mays Class of 1907
Claire Elizabeth Kunkler '14, granddaughter of Peggy Crabb Henderson '67

Congratulations to the 4th Annual Class Ring Essay Contest Winner, Margaret Tiller '13!

Members of the Converse sophomore class were asked to describe what it means to them personally to receive the Converse College class ring. In their essays, students reflected on the class ring tradition itself and how it connects Converse alumnae to each other and to the College. Entries were judged by the Alumnae Association based on creativity, content and mechanics/grammar. After carefully reviewing each entry, the Alumnae Association announced Margaret Tiller '13 as the author of the winning essay. Tiller will read the following composition at the Sophomore Ring Ceremony on April 30, 2011.

The Celebration of Sisterhood: Symbolism, Sentimentality and Tradition of Converse Class Rings! Though Converse boasts charming statues, handsome buildings and challenging curriculums, the most noteworthy aspect of this College is the loyal students. Many students decide to pledge their unceasing loyalty with a class ring. These rings are a metaphorical representation of the Converse sisters: the rings vary in shape, size and color; however, each ring is a never-ending circle that bears the Converse insignia.

As a Converse student, I know that I have different aspirations than each of my peers; however, like the rings, we are bound together by an unbreakable circle of trust and respect. Just as the rings are connected by the same Converse insignia, all students are unified by the same spirit of Converse. In understanding the symbolism behind the rings and through recognizing the connection supplied by the rings, receiving a class ring would hold immeasurable sentimental meaning for me. Though wearing a ring is not necessary in reminding me of the incredible influence of Converse on my life, receiving a class ring would give me the privilege of participating in a long-standing tradition. Such an honor would enrich my journey at this spectacular institution! Any student, whether from the Class of 1930 or the Class of 2013, will emphasize traditions as a fundamental facet of Converse. In my two years at Converse, I have made an effort to understand the symbolism behind each celebrated tradition and have been particularly attracted to the meaning behind the Sophomore Ring Ceremony.

After being presented with her ring, a Converse student is encouraged to place the ring with the insignia facing toward herself. After graduation, she flips the ring so that the insignia faces the outside world. For some this may seem a rather trivial gesture; however, I find this act incredibly symbolic in representing the intention of the newly-graduated Converse woman to prosper in society and conquer challenges all the while wearing the same insignia that has inspired generations of confident young women! By wearing class rings, students and alumnae are able to communicate pride in being Converse sisters without even muttering a word. Students that graduate decades apart are united by the amazing experiences offered, memories recollected and lessons learned by participating in the traditions of our college. I am lucky enough to be reminded each day of the indisputable bond that binds each Converse student, past and present, to both each other and to this phenomenal campus. Though I will forever remember the remarkable experiences that Converse has bestowed upon me, a class ring would be a tangible reminder of the extraordinary connection of sisterhood that links Converse students of every generation.



Alumnae Award Winners



Career Achievement in Music

The Career Achievement in Music Award recognizes the alumna who has dedicated herself to excellence in her profession in music and notable achievements credited over a continual period of time.

Carolene Belcher Hansard '56

Lithia Springs, GA

Retired Piano, Choral and Drama Teacher

"Because of Converse I can share my love of music, my God-Given talents and my musical training with my family, friends, students, church and community."

Mae Elizabeth Kilgo Spirit Award

The Mae Elizabeth Kilgo Spirit of Converse Award is given to an alumna who, by her constant and loyal service to Converse College, has kept the college visible to other alumnae and her community.

Carroll Sibley Clancy '71

Raleigh, NC

Community Volunteer

"Because of Converse I can believe in the strength of a women's college. I believe that the small classes and individual attention given by staff and faculty can and do fully prepare women for achievement in the world in the professional and volunteer fields. I believe that the friends and relationships made here will be a wonderful support and blessing that will last a lifetime."



Career Achievement Award

The Career Achievement Award recognizes the alumna who has dedicated herself to excellence in her profession and has distinguished herself by notable achievements credited over a continual period of time.

Delois Brown-Daniels '76

Chicago, IL

Vice President at Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center (AIMMC)

"Because of Converse, I can work with the various sectors that make up a community. The opportunity to have had an excellent academic experience that highlighted the importance of contributing to the community has helped shape my vocation of ministry."

STAR Award

The Star Award is given in recognition of an alumna who has actively and admirably serves Converse in the area of student recruitment.

Carrie Hill Coleman '96

Spartanburg, SC

Preschool Teacher

"Because of Converse I am a true testament to the fact that you can do anything with a liberal arts degree. In the 15 years since I graduated, I have worked as an admissions counselor, an event planner and volunteer coordinator, an economic development research assistant and a preschool teacher. The vast subject matter that I absorbed during my years as a student at Converse along with the leadership opportunities I had on campus taught me that I could succeed at any occupation that came my way."





Distinguished Alumna Award

The Distinguished Alumna Award is given to those alumnae who deserve special recognition for their loyalty to Converse, outstanding achievement in their fields and service to their communities.

Lan Nguyen Shortt '81

Houston, TX

Attorney at Shortt & Nguyen, P.C.

"Because of Converse, I have the confidence, the skills, and the opportunity to be the means by which those who are most in need can access justice. It is a humbling thought that you can help deliver justice to others."

Community Service Award

The Community Service Award recognizes the alumna who displays the qualities of a vibrant citizen through her active involvement in her community, church and state.

Libby Anne Kepley Inabinet '86

Columbia, SC

Chief Development Officer for the American Red Cross of Central South Carolina

"Because of Converse College I can follow in the footsteps of a long line of women leaders who are not only impacting their local communities but also building upon the strengths of those that surround them."



Converse 100 Award

The Converse 100 Award, first presented during the College's Centennial Celebration, is given to a representative alumna who clearly embodies the qualities of character and achievement that Converse alumnae hold as their ideal.

Wendy Jolley-Kabi '91

Silver Spring, MD

Executive Director of the Association of Missing and Exploited Children's Organizations (AMECO)

"Because of Converse, I can affect change in our world."

Converse 100 Award

The Converse 100 Award, first presented during the College's Centennial Celebration, is given to a representative alumna who clearly embodies the qualities of character and achievement that Converse alumnae hold as their ideal.

Sue Ellen Germany Lucas '76

Birmingham, AL

Community Volunteer

"Because of Converse, I can work as a volunteer to meet needs in the Birmingham community."



Young Alumna Award

The Young Alumna Award is given to an alumna (within 15 years of graduation) who embodies the qualities of character and achievement that Converse alumnae hold as their ideal.

Neal Millikan '01

Boston, MA

National Historical Publications and Records Commission Fellow with the Adams Papers at the Massachusetts Historical Society.

"Because of Converse, I can daily apply the research and writing skills I acquired as an undergraduate History major to my current work as a historian."

Alumnae Board Slate—



R&R Chair
Pamela Woods '85
Columbia, SC



CARE Chair
Amy Tibbals Morales '86
Jacksonville, FL



Development Chair
Lucia Cleveland Johnson '67
Cedartown, GA



Music School Rep
Emily Kerr Stay '63
Novelty, OH



1950s Decade Rep
Margaret Jackson Bundy '54
Lancaster, SC



1950s Decade Rep
Dot Ormond Grier '50
Spartanburg, SC



1960s Decade Rep
Betty "Boopie" Poole Rose '63
Raleigh, NC



1960s Decade Rep
Anna Watkins Hattaway '62
Raleigh, NC



1980s Decade Rep
Karen Waters Thomas '84
Greer, SC



1980s Decade Rep
Cathy McAllister Watson '86
Columbia, SC



1990s Decade Rep
Debbie Currin Conner '90
Conway, SC



1990s Decade Rep
Tracy Williamson Dart '91
Princeton, NJ

-2011



At-Large Member
Susanna Knight Roberts '00
Atlanta, GA



Golden Club Co-Chair
Mary Lib Spillers Hamilton '57
Spartanburg, SC



Golden Club Co-Chair
Doris Marley Laird '51
Tallahassee, FL



Young Alumna Rep
Elizabeth Walker '06
Greenville, SC



At-Large Member
Kelly Orner '08
Columbia, SC



1960s Decade Rep
Caroline Watts Morris '64
Greenville, SC



1970s Decade Rep
Paula Wagner Gay '77
Houston, TX



1980s Decade Rep
Julie Staggs '86
Atlanta, GA



At-Large Member
Nilla "Dicke" Tredway Sloop '67
Sanford, NC



2000s Decade Rep
Grace Bagwell '07
Athens, GA



2000s Decade Rep
Gabrielle Chapman Leopard '03
Spartanburg, SC



2000s Decade Rep
Joy Stoney '00
Charleston, SC



2010s Decade Rep
Nicole Dumouchel '10
Spartanburg, SC



Remember when... there was D Day

Before 1889 Week and the Red Devils, there was D Day and the lovely Modine. Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, students and faculty enjoyed a day of games, song, food and of course...lots of fun! No one knew when D Day would come around because the actual date was kept a secret until the morning of the event. On the fateful day, classes were cancelled and big sisters roared down the halls with whistles and yells giving everyone their early morning wake up calls. Faculty and students boarded Greyhound buses and traveled to the Block House in Tryon, NC where they played outdoor games, performed in a class song competition and spent the day together making memories...



When academia is forced out of the realm of any conception, and class meetings, rehearsals and time-consuming preparations demand first-hand attention, many question the meaning and purpose of the day the Block House draws all students to contribute to the spirit of togetherness. Few leave the activities of the day still questioning, few leave unexhausted and few leave untouched by feeling. The songs—echoing, harmonizing, defining the spirit of each class—capture the melody that filters the atmosphere of the day and gives a memory and a meaning to D Day.
Y's and other Y's 1970 yearbook



DARIUS RUCKER

LIVE IN CONCERT

CONVERSE COLLEGE
SATURDAY APRIL 16

IN STORES NOW



[CHARLESTON, SC 1966]

www.DARIUSRUCKER.com

Back Campus Rain Or Shine
Gates Open At 7pm
Concert Begins At 8pm

College Students: \$20
General Admission: \$40
ALL Day Of Show Tickets: \$40

For More Info: 864.596.9725

CONVERSE



580 East Main Street
Spartanburg, South Carolina 29302
www.converse.edu

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #108
SPARTANBURG, SC
29301



Talk to Us!

Do you know a young woman who wants to...

Hit the ground running

70% of the Class of 2010 had a job or grad school acceptance in-hand the day they graduated.

Be the center of attention

Our 10:1 student faculty ratio—one of the best in the country—guarantees students the individual attention needed to achieve their goals.

Make major decisions

Converse offers 35 majors, 21 minors and 11 pre-professional programs.



The Converse Admission Team

If you know a young woman who should be considering a Converse education, send us her name! April Lewis and her team of admission counselors will do the rest. Contact us at 1.800.766.1125 or admission@converse.edu