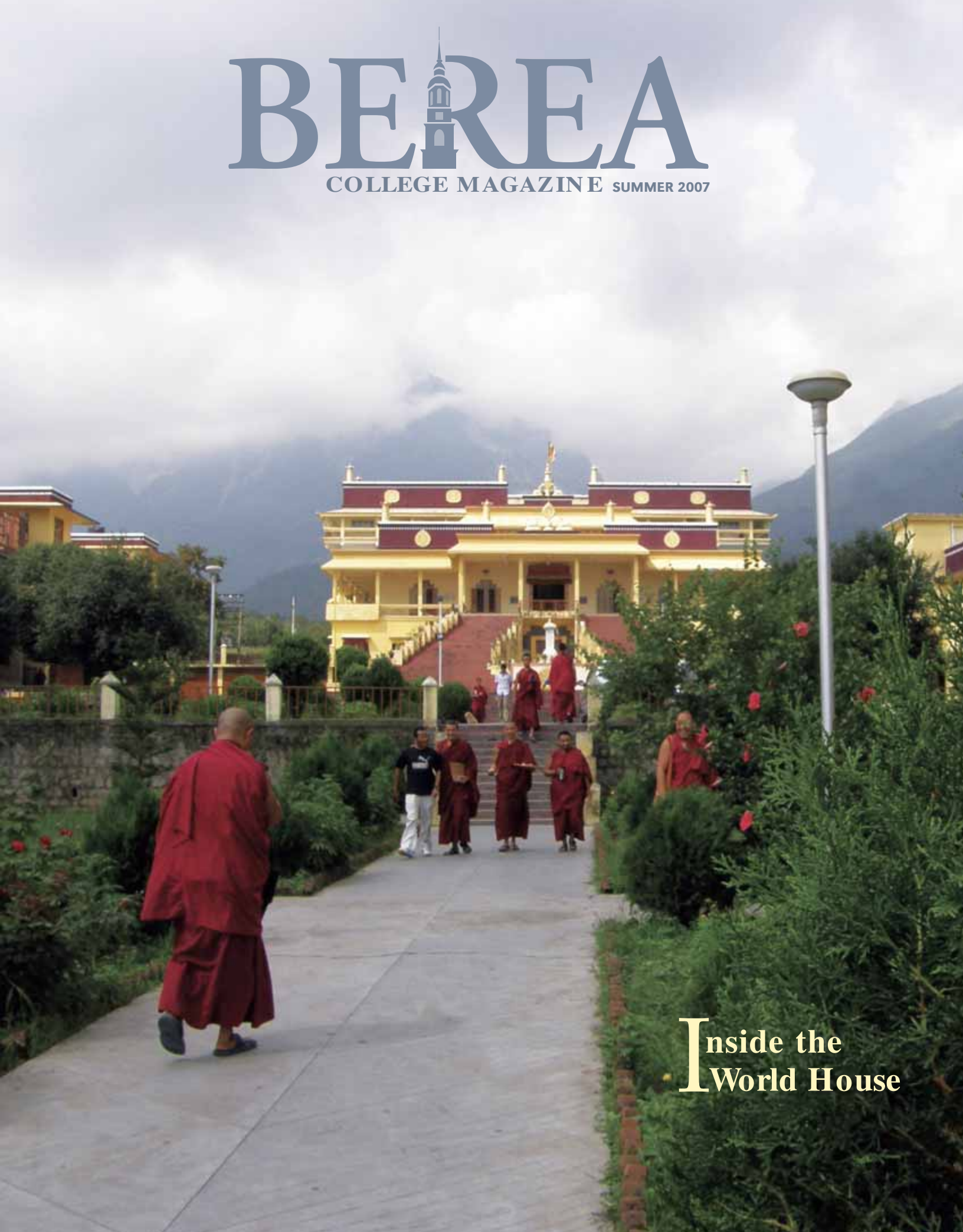
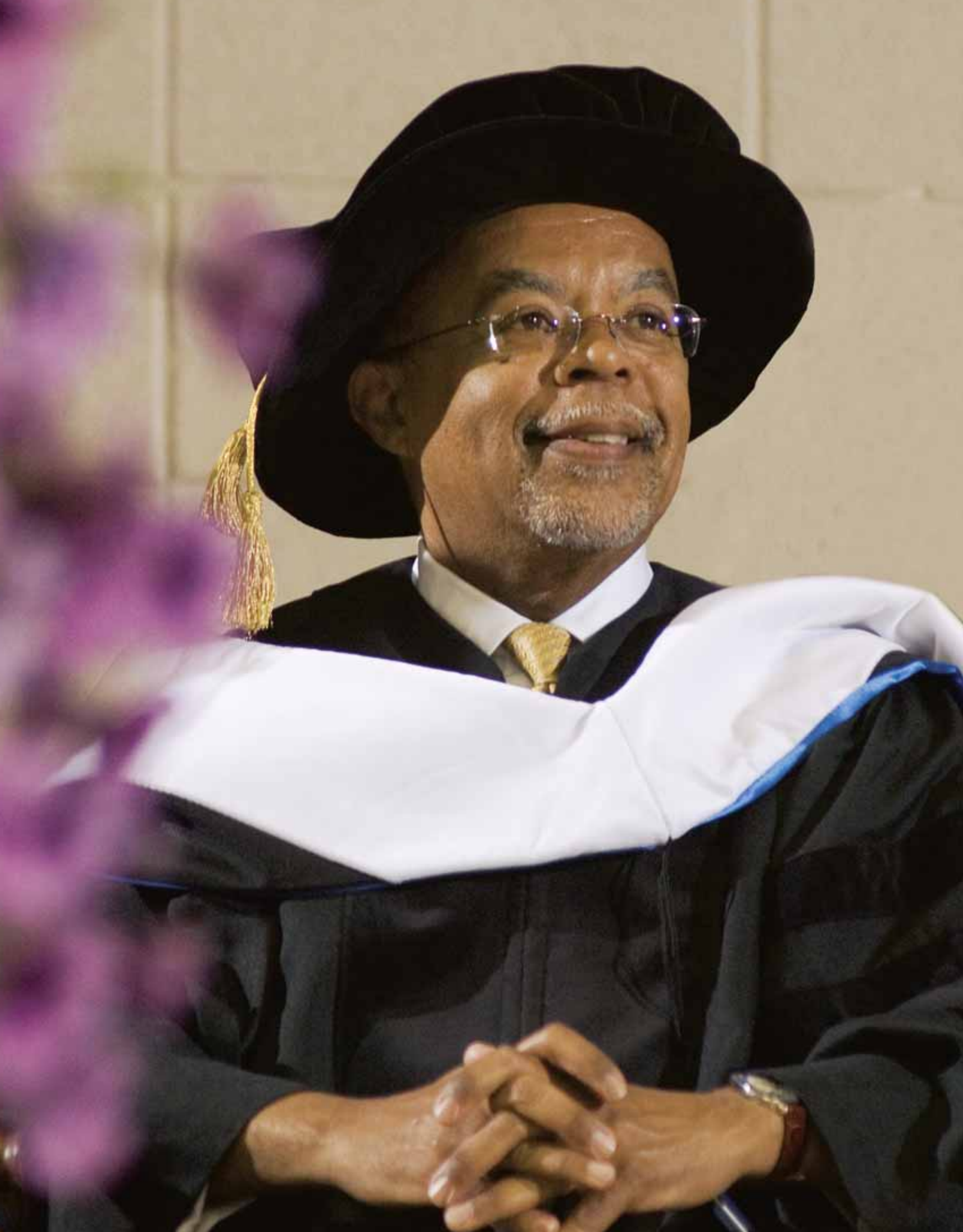


BEREA

COLLEGE MAGAZINE SUMMER 2007



Inside the
World House



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Robert Campbell, '09, Maggie Greene, '09,
Stephanie Henry, '08, Amanda Hensley, '10,
Debbie McIntyre, '10, Mary Rush, '07

*Front Cover: Monastery near Dharmsala, photo by Kolleen Kellom
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It takes a whole village to raise a child.

—Ashanti proverb

We live in a global village. This is no longer a metaphor for the world wide web. It is fact. What happens on the other side of the world affects those living on this side. Gaseous emissions in China, the loss of rainforests in Brazil, and the devastation of Appalachia through mountaintop removal create global climate changes that affect every person on earth. The car bombs that explode in Baghdad, London, and Jerusalem are ignited by the issues of religion, economics, and politics that face everyone.

We can no longer say “That’s not my problem. That is about other people.” We all live on this planet. This is our home. These are our kinfolks. “Whatever you do unto the least of my brothers, you do unto me” (Matthew 25:40). Almost 2,000 years ago Jesus the Christ recognized that we live in a global village, and that it takes a whole village to raise a child.

If you have attended Berea College, you already know that God has made of one blood all peoples of the earth. You know that John G. Fee founded this College with the intent to educate every child – male or female, black or white.

The reputation of Berea College extends across the country and around the world. We are a place that offers hope, that generates great minds, that has made Great Commitments to uplift all. We believe that together we can make a difference and create a better, a fairer, a nobler world. Our 2007 commencement speaker, Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr., knows this, too. He said, “You have to go out and build the world you want to live in.”

More solutions are needed for the problems that exist in our global village. Every faculty member, or alumnus, or student mentioned in these pages represents a part of the solution. Whether from Blacksburg, Virginia or Dharmasala, India, Berea graduates strive to protect the environment. An exhausted refugee from Liberia who came here to study becomes in turn a pillar of strength to his gravely ill host parent in Berea. The Zambian economist, the Ghanaian poet, the Sudanese farmer who wants to feed his people – each has made an impact in Appalachia, whether helping local businesses, inspiring fellow students, or teaching children to swim. The issues and challenges of Appalachia are not exclusive to Appalachia. Others’ concerns mirror our concerns. We want to make the world a better place to live. The international experience, whether as a traveler abroad or as a sojourner on Berea’s campus, teaches us the unity of existence.

When I began this issue, I called its theme ‘Home and Away,’ but the more I worked on it, the more I saw that this issue is really about the global home, the World House, as Martin Luther King, Jr. called it.

Welcome to my village.

Welcome to our house.

This is Berea.

Welcome home.



Normandi Ellis

Normandi Ellis

Around campus

Jessie Zander Tours Lincoln Institute and Becomes a Member of the Black Music Ensemble

During the Black Music Ensemble's (BME) spring concert, Jessie Reasor Zander, '54, realized a long-held dream. Not only did she sing as a guest of the BME, she was welcomed into the group as an honorary member. Jessie Zander was the first African American to graduate from Berea College after the repeal of the Day Law, which prohibited interracial education in Kentucky colleges from 1904-50.

"When I was here in 1954," she told the audience, "there were only five African American students in the school. We had no black ensemble or anything else like that for us." When Jessie met President Shinn in Tucson recently, she told him, "I am going to be 75 this year, and there are things you say you want to do, but never get to do them." Singing with the choir was one of those things.

At the invitation of the president and BME directors Kathy Bullock and Kimberly Wilson, '97, Jessie traveled from her home in Arizona to perform "Precious Lord" with the BME.

While she was in the state, she accompanied associate professor Andrew Baskin, '73, to Lincoln Institute in Simpsonville where from 1912-66 African

Americans from Kentucky and many other states were educated. After briefly serving as the site of a program for gifted students, the Shelby County campus became the home of the Whitney M. Young Job Corps Center.

Jessie toured the campus with Baskin, Tashia Bradley, Black Cultural Center director, Larry McDonald, current president of the Lincoln Foundation, Hugh Ella Robinson, curator of the Whitney M. Young, Jr. memorial home, and Vivian Overall, '97, the only known graduate of both Lincoln Institute and Berea College. An educator, counselor, and principal herself, Jessie was pleased to visit a place she had heard about for many years and never seen, a place, she said, "that was so sacred."

Although she waited nearly 30 years before attending her first homecoming in Berea, Jessie then became an active member of the College, working with the Alumni Association, teaching campus courses on racial themes and returning whenever possible. In all, the time recently spent in Kentucky 43 years after her graduation was "totally wonderful. I think of Berea as my sort of home. I like being around the students now. If it gives them some encouragement, then that is something I enjoy doing."



Michael Lorus, '10

Otisha Hayes, '07, BME historian read the commemorative plaque to Jessie Zander, honorary member.



O'Neil Arnold, '85

Hugh Ella Robinson, (left) faculty member of Lincoln Institute (LI), shares a laugh with Vivian Overall, LI grad, Zander, and Gary Brown, LI grad, during Zander's visit.

Labor Day Rewards Work Well Done

A Labor Day banquet honoring Berea's many student workers was held in April followed by the traditional Labor Day celebration. Students enjoyed a day off from classes as they attended festivities at Seabury Center with student performances, free food, games, and prizes.

Loretta Reynolds, chaplain for the Campus Christian Center, was named Supervisor of the Year; Megan Naseman, '07, director of the SENS House, received Student Employee of the Year. The Berea Star Search spotlighted the performing arts with winners Joshua Noah, '10, male vocalist; Ashley Long, '08, female vocalist; Nina Yarbrough, '09, non-musical performer; and "To Be Announced," best musical group.



Joshua Noah



Ashley Long



Nina Yarbrough



To Be Announced

Alternative Spring Breaks Open Eyes and Hearts of Berea Students

While attending a leadership conference in Washington, D.C., Geri Guy, '08, heard Dr. Calvin Mackie, a board member of the Louisiana Recovery Authority, describe the continued suffering of the region's hurricane victims. "I was filled with an urge to do something more," she explains. Nine of her fellow attendees felt the same.

As a result, 14 students and a staff member spent spring break assisting victims of the disaster. Sadly, two years after the hurricane, not much has changed in New Orleans' devastated Ninth Ward. "New Orleans looks like it had been bombed," said Tashia Bradley, advisor and Black Cultural Center director. "Americans should be ashamed for what we have let happen to our fellow human beings."

The volunteers heard story after story of lost property, possessions, family, and friends; yet, many had not lost their spirits. "I will always remember 'Mama D,' a community activist who took the time to talk to us about the problems going on in the city," said Debra Bulluck, '09.

Students worked with Common Ground Collective, a relief organization that houses, feeds, and supplies volunteers who are assisting in the clean up. The group performed a variety of jobs in the community, including clearing nature trails.

Fourteen volunteers active with the Berea College chapter of Habitat for Humanity spent their spring break on the island of Kaua'i in Hawaii building houses with the Habitat affiliate there. The students framed an entire house and half of another house, painted an entire house, created and framed a porch on a third house, worked in the Habitat thrift store, and cleaned up the store's warehouse. The group relished working on the island with the homeowners, the local staff, and others.

"This was my fourth alternative spring break trip," said Oliver Bugariski, '07, "and this is the poorest community in which I've volunteered." In rural Kaua'i, the larger northwestern island, locals work two or three jobs to get by. Large extended families live in a 1-2 bedroom house.

Bugariski said his most memorable moment came when the locals discovered that Berea workers, like the islanders themselves, came from low-income and underprivileged communities. It pleased them to know "how hard we worked to raise funds just to travel to Kaua'i to help them build their houses and community."



Berea College chapter of Habitat for Humanity in Kaua'i, Hawaii



Student volunteers assist with Hurricane Katrina clean-up two years after the fact.

A New *Carillon* Reverberates on Campus

Conceived, juried, edited, and published by students, a 52-page glossy literary and art journal called *Carillon* debuted this spring. Four Learning Center peer consultants, Robert Campbell, '09, Rachel Weaver, '08, Michael Adams, '08, and Jean Smith, '07, read more than 200 entries, looking for works "that were of excellent quality and which reflected the artistic diversity of the Berea College community," said Smith. "We tended to go with works in which the author's voice rang out clearly. We had to make some very tough decisions since space was very tight."

A public *Carillon* reading was held near semester's end. The project was financially supported by the Learning Center and supervised by Learning Center director Megan Hoffman and program coordinator Vicky Hayes, Cx'75.



Carillon's editorial board: Campbell, Smith, Weaver and Adams (l-r)

May Rush, '07

Geri Guy, '08

Students Interview Olympian Lucinda Adams

As part of a documentary on her life, gold medalist Olympian Lucinda Adams was interviewed by physical education majors Jasmine Moore, '08, and Leah Heizer, '07. Professor Martha Beagle brought Adams to campus for the interview and to speak to her general studies course in Olympic Games and Global Sports.



Lucinda Adams

Tyler Castells, '08

Adams was a member of the American 4x100 meter relay team that won the gold in the 1960 Olympics in Rome. Since then she has been president of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, taught in public schools, and toured the country as a motivational speaker. She praised Berea and its students for their intellectual achievements and their eager service to the community.

Adams was a member of the American 4x100 meter relay team that won the gold in the 1960 Olympics in Rome. Since then she has been president of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, taught in public schools, and toured the country as a motivational speaker. She praised Berea and its students for their intellectual achievements and their eager service to the community.

Bereans Honor Virginia Tech's Slain Students and Educators

In an expression of sympathy and support, the Berea College community wore orange and maroon, the colors of Virginia Tech, where 32 students and faculty lost their lives during a campus shooting that rocked the nation. Mary Lamb, '70, director of Career Development, organized the "Orange and Maroon Effect" to show support for friends and families of those who lost their lives on April 16.

A banner of prayer flags filled with words of sympathy and support from students, staff, and faculty was displayed in Danforth Chapel before being sent to Virginia Tech. The banner of nearly 100 individual messages was long enough to wrap nearly two times around the foyer of the chapel. Said Katie Basham, '02, of the Campus Christian Center which sponsored production of the prayer flag, "When faced with such overwhelming situations, people want to do something. We wanted to find a way that people could offer encouragement to those affected by this tragedy."



Michael Lorus, '10

Heard Around Campus

"It was necessary that somebody step up. In our community, somebody had to do something. Our town was dying ... the public areas were left to decay."

— Betty Howard of the "Petticoat Mafia"
Peanut Butter and Gender, March 2007



The Petticoat Mafia members

Debbie McIntyre, '70

"Africa was not what I had imagined.... There may have been poverty, but there was tremendous beauty and diversity."

—Hollis Chatelain, textile artist
Emotion of Art Affecting Activism convocation, April 2007



Hollis Chatelain

Tyler Castells, '08

"Watch how we respond as Americans to violence. We have chosen as a nation to ignore it."

—Dr. Catherine Nichols, United Church of Christ Global Ministries in Jerusalem
Peanut Butter and Gender, April 2007

"The people I represent want what I can't give them. They want to feel how they did before they knew something was wrong."

—Tom FitzGerald,
Lawyer for the mountain people
Appalachian Center presentation, April 2007



Dr. Catherine Nichols

Tyler Castells, '08

"A majority of streams in West Virginia and Kentucky are not fit for skin contact. You can't touch the water, much less drink it.... If you ask a politician, they'll say there's no good water left. But there is good water left and it's worth protecting."

—Tricia Feeney, '05, grassroots organizer
"Water Rights Are Human Rights" convocation, May 2007



Tricia Feeney



Tom FitzGerald

Caitlin Ambrose, '10

News from Faculty, Staff, and Trustees



Rachel Memore '10

Cron Carpenter, Elizabeth Sloas, Connie Briggs, John Courter, and Philip English

Retirees Gave Us 183 Years

Four staff and three faculty members retired this year, after providing the College with a combined 183 years of service.

Retiring staff members include Connie Briggs, student life collegium member (19 years); Cron Carpenter, facilities management (43 years); Mary Kay Kidwell, director of prospect development (6 years); and Elizabeth Sloas, development (30 years). Retiring faculty include Dr. John Courter, College organist and music professor (26 years); Dr. Philip English, associate professor of speech communication (17 years); and Dr. Don Hudson, '65, industrial arts and technology professor (42 years).

Blade and Fleming Join Board of Trustees



Vance Blade

Two distinguished African American alumni were recently elected to the Berea College Board of Trustees.

Vance Blade, '82, is a risk manager for The Kroger Company. He is president of the Kroger African American Alliance, and serves on both the Bridgehaven Mental Health Organization's board of directors and the Louisville chapter of the United Nations Drug Task Force, among other civic activities.



Dr. John E. Fleming

Dr. John E. Fleming, '66, is the vice president of museums for the Cincinnati Museum Center. He completed his master's and doctorate degrees from Howard University. Fleming has served in the Peace Corp in Africa and on the United States Civil Rights Commission. He was the first director and chief operating officer for the National Underground Railroad Freedom

Center and has served on various civic and historical boards and commissions.

Sociologist William H. Turner Appointed NEH Chair in Appalachian Studies

Dr. William H. Turner was appointed to the National Endowment for the Humanities Chair in Appalachian Studies at Berea College, beginning fall 2007. Turner will teach, pursue research projects, and facilitate the integration of Appalachian Studies scholarship and materials.

A sociologist whose work focuses on Appalachian African Americans, Turner brings more than 30 years of experience as a researcher, teacher, and administrator. In 1988-89 he was a distinguished visiting professor of Black and Appalachian Studies at Berea College.

Among other teaching and academic posts, he was vice president for University Engagement and associate provost for Multicultural and Academic Affairs at the University of Kentucky, interim president of Kentucky State University, and research associate to *Roots* author Alex Haley.



William H. Turner

A native of Lynch, Kentucky Turner's columns on issues affecting blacks in Appalachia have appeared in the *Lexington Herald-Leader* and in North Carolina newspapers. His books include *Blacks in Appalachia*,

co-edited with Edward Cabbell, *Black Colleges: Essays on Cultural Legitimacy and Economic Efficiency*, *Appalachian Heritage*, and *The Path of My Pilgrimage: The Autobiography of Marshall B. Bass*. He assisted in the production and wrote the afterward to *African-American Miners and Migrants: The Eastern Kentucky Social Club*.

Turner earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Kentucky. He earned a doctorate in sociology and anthropology at the University of Notre Dame.

Fulbright Fellow Sarah Griffin Heads to London for Classical Theatre Training



Even as the littlest chick in her first grade play, Sarah Griffin, '06, felt at ease onstage. After stage combat training during a sixth-grade summer camp, she knew she would be a performer. This fall, she begins training in classical acting in London, England, at the Central School of Speech and Drama, thanks to her 2007 Fulbright scholarship.

While attending Berea, Sarah landed major roles in five theatrical productions: *The Beauty Queen of Leaneane* (2003), *Richard III* and *Metamorphoses* (2004), *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* (2005), and *Mother Courage and Her Children* (2006). The midyear graduate returned to her hometown of Louisville and became involved with an experimental amateur drama troupe, Specific Gravity Ensemble, which creates original site-specific performances.

Last fall she and other members of Alpha Psi Omega, the national theatre honor society, created theatrical experiences for fifth graders at nearby Paint Lick Elementary. Sarah, Nina Yarborough, '09, and Mark Cashwell, '06, worked with 50 arts and humanities students to teach key concepts and vocabulary for the theatre. Over the eight week period, three groups rotated among the three instructors who taught improvisation exercises.

One day she placed a red handkerchief inside the group circle, and then asked the students to create something with the object. One boy, she recalls, picked up the handkerchief and draped it over his arm. He talked to it, whispered something, then kissed it, and walked around with it draped over his arm as if it was his girlfriend. After creating performances, the Paint Lick fifth graders became the envy of the other grades. Sarah recalls a second grade student begged to be included. "Why can't you work with us? We want to do it right now!"

Acting teachers become influential creatures. During her first Berea performance, in *Beauty Queen*, Sarah shared not only the stage, but the dressing room with head of the theatre department, Deborah Martin. Martin praised her debut performance. "This role requires much from any actress, especially one as young as Sarah was, but she dove in and mastered the Irish dialect, allowed herself to be vulnerable, and proved to be a marvelous partner on the stage."

In addition to working with terrific faculty members – Sarah's list was

extensive— she worked with fellow theatre alumnus Clay Goodpasture, '04. While he was a student here, Clay directed her in *Beauty Queen* and performed with her in *Metamorphoses*. Now a member of Second City Improv troupe in Chicago, Clay returned to Berea with Mackenzie Condon, another Chicago actor, to work on improvisation with the student cast of *Mother Courage*.

Berea's theatre department, Sarah says, also provides its students with strong technical skills – such as selecting props, building stage sets, and operating lights. These skills often become the meat and potatoes jobs for actors between roles.

Sarah heads to London in the fall, where she will spend nine months in a master's level program before returning to the States to complete her independent study project. Afterward, she says, "There are two paths. Either I find something through the London experience that results in a job, or I'll be auditioning for roles again in Chicago or Los Angeles."



Watson Fellow **Fred Rweru** to Study the Mutations of Cricket

By Ali Duff, '07

A sixteen-year obsession with the game of cricket has led Fred Rweru, '07, (pronounced RuwEh-roo) to fulfill a dream. Fred, a physical education/sports medicine major from Kampala, Uganda, has been awarded a \$25,000 Thomas J. Watson Fellowship for 2007-08 to study and travel outside the United States. As the 26th Berea College student to receive a Watson Fellowship since 1988, Rweru plans to cover the globe studying the game of cricket and its historical, political, and social implications.

His project, "Leather, Willow, and Empire: Cricket's 'Mutation' in Former British Colonies," will lead Fred to the United Kingdom, Trinidad, and Tobago, Barbados, India, and Australia. It was always his dream to play cricket in each of these countries. "Cricket is important to me because it's an avenue towards understanding and experiencing lives that revolve around the game, and in many ways examining my own life."

Studying and playing the game in these countries will enable him to explore how and why the game has uniquely mutated in the four major cricket-playing regions of the world. "When you study cricket in these countries, you really learn about the people and their history. When you talk about cricket in these countries you talk about their lives, past and present, and their aspirations."

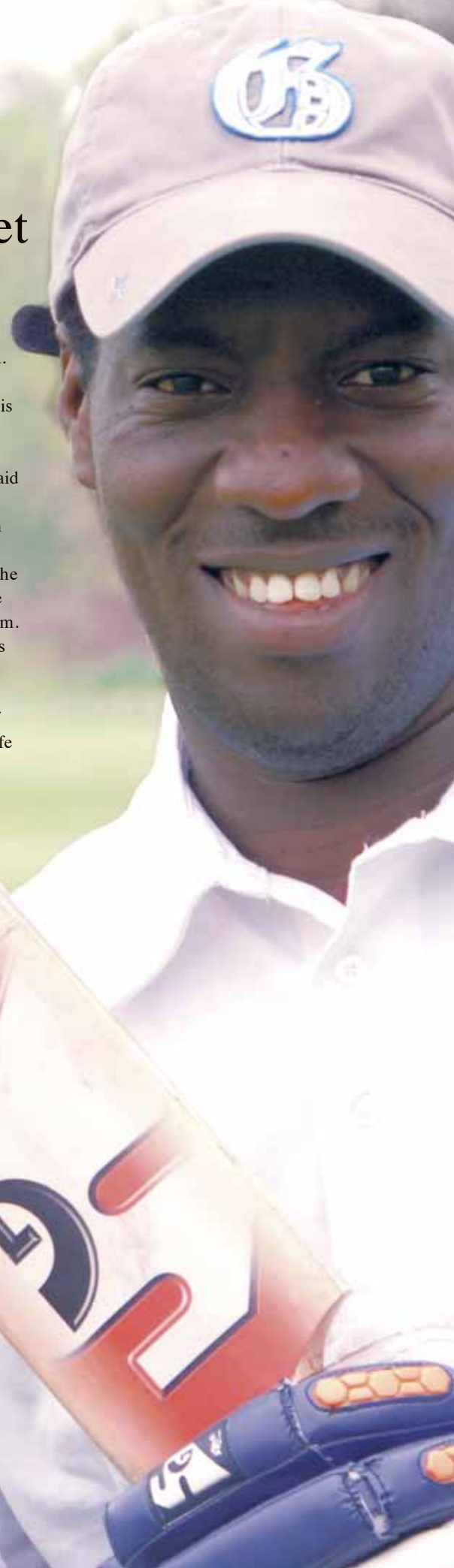
Fred says he looks forward to playing with some of the world's best cricket players. He plans to visit various universities and museums to talk with professors and historians who study the game, in addition to his visits to famed cricket fields, like Lord's in England and the Melbourne Cricket Grounds in Australia. Fred will not only be playing with the most elite players but also with those who play at the school, club, and village level.

It was school-level cricket that ignited Fred's passion for the sport. His experience as a cricketer began in 1990 when a coach

from England visited his school in Uganda. His visit sparked Fred's interest. "I just found it by some chance, and I thought this was really cool. I have been playing ever since." His mother declared that he was obsessed with the game and his teachers said he needed to spend less time playing and more time on school. "I could have gotten better grades in high school, but I really loved cricket," Fred says. While at school he played club ball in Uganda's cricket league and also played for the junior national team.

His plans upon returning to the States are flexible at this point. He is leaning toward study of physical therapy and law school, but would like to take the year off and examine his passion and purpose in life and pursue it at graduate school.

For now, Fred begins his trip with an open mind. "Things do not always go according to plan.... I will have some failures, successes, and frustrations. But whatever happens, I am going to have fun, marvel at the furthest places of the world and take in the year of a lifetime."



Jessica Fagan Receives Compton Mentor Fellowship and Joins the Udall Legacy Bus Tour

Jessica Fagan, '07, a biology and chemistry major from Blacksburg, Virginia, was awarded a \$35,000 Compton Mentor Fellowship for 2007-08 for her project "Girl Scouts and the Environment: Changing Extracurricular Education to Address Climate Change." Fagan was one of eight graduating seniors nationally to receive the fellowship, which funds a self-directed project to address real-world situations.

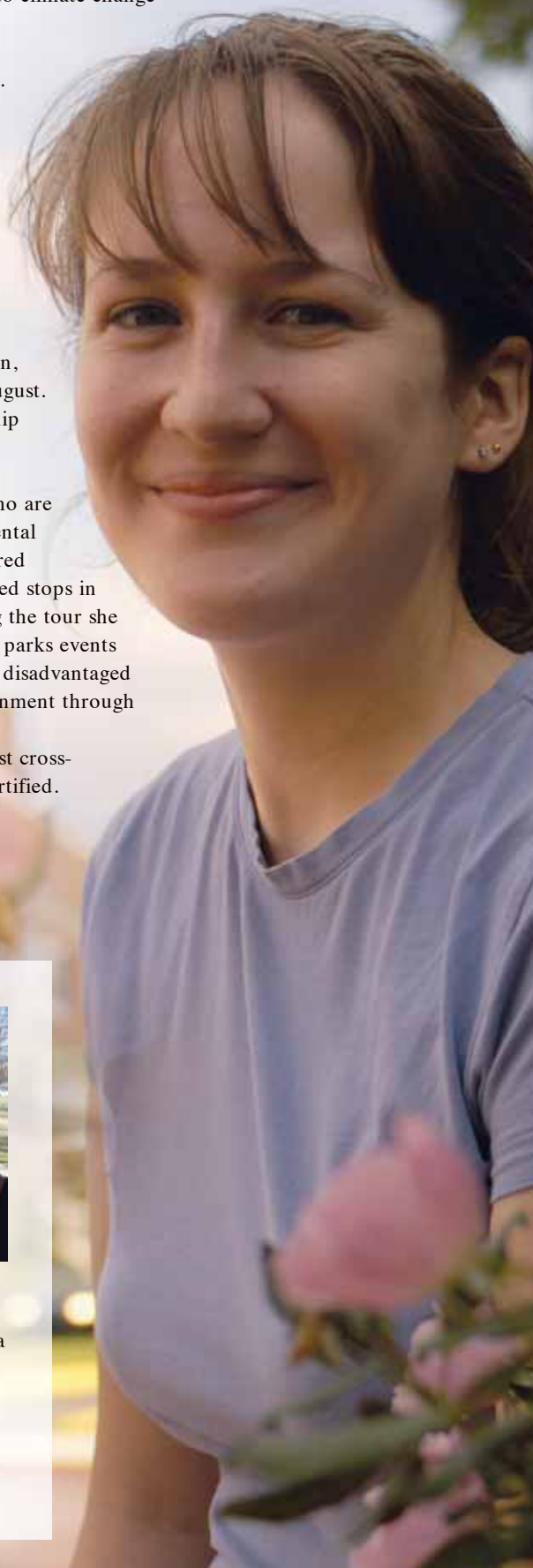
Over the next year, Fagan will work with the Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline Council (GSVSC) to heighten awareness of climate change through youth education, research, idea circulation, and program development. She hopes to circulate new service projects, an educational demonstration library, and a new patch program within GSVSC to directly address climate change issues throughout the scouting organization. She also plans to develop an online

resource to summarize the work related to climate change that Girl Scout groups can perform nationwide. Jessica's mentor is Jean Ann Hughes, chief operations officer of GSVSC.

This summer Jessica participated in the Udall Legacy Bus Tour, which was the culmination of a year-long celebration of public service in honor of the tenth anniversary of the Morris K. Udall Foundation's educational programs. She joined 12 other Udall scholarship recipients from around the U.S. for the 54-day, 8,600-mile biodiesel bus tour that began in June in Washington, D.C. and ended in Tucson, Arizona in August. Jessica received a \$5,000 Udall Scholarship last year, for 2006-07.

The tour honors the Udall legacy by highlighting young people nationwide who are finding solutions to America's environmental and Native American issues. Jessica offered ecology awareness programs and organized stops in state and national parks en route. During the tour she worked as a natural history, ecology, and parks events coordinator who provided workshops to disadvantaged children, teaching them about the environment through photography activities.

The Udall Legacy Bus Tour is the first cross-country motor coach tour to be green-certified.



Virginia Senkomago Garners Phi Kappa Phi Award of Excellence

Virginia Senkomago, '07, a chemistry major from Uganda, received one of 40 Phi Kappa Phi National Awards of Excellence. The honor society provides competitive awards to graduates for a first year of graduate or professional study. She also garnered an Olive Ruth Russell Fellowship, given to a woman with an outstanding academic record who plans to pursue graduate study.



While attending Berea, Virginia also received the 2004 Pugsley Mathematics Award; the 2005 Thomas Beebe Organic Chemistry Award; and the 2007 Class of 1958 Research Excellence Award. In 2006 she was awarded a University of Minnesota Lando Summer Research Fellowship and received first place in the Institute of Technology summer undergraduate research exposition in Minnesota.

In 2005 Virginia also received a summer undergraduate research grant at the University of Pittsburg.

Megan Naseman Earns Double Recognition

Megan Naseman, '07, of Anna, Ohio served as leader, labor supervisor, and house coordinator of the residents in the Ecovillage Sustainability and Environmental Studies (SENS) House. Besides monitoring SENS House functions, she coordinated a wide variety of sustainability and service-oriented outreach programs on campus and in the community. Megan helped Berea College begin its own chapter of Roots and Shoots, a program that helps children learn about the environment, animals, and the human community.

After all of her hard work and dedication, it is no surprise that she was recognized as the Berea College Student Employee of the Year as well as the

Kentucky Student Employee of the Year through the Midwest Association of Student Employment Administrators.

An independent outdoor education major, Megan received the award for her reliability, initiative, professionalism, high-quality work, and effective collaboration.

Her nominators, professors Paul Smithson and Richard Olson, collegium members Teri Williams and Connie Briggs, and sustainability coordinator Tammy Clemons, consider her a colleague. "She has taught all of us at least as much as we have taught her. Rarely have we had the opportunity to work with someone of her caliber."

Caitlin Malone Goes Above and Beyond the Call of Duty

Caitlin Malone, '08, an education major with a middle school concentration from Burien, Washington, won the Wilson & Ellen Best Evans "Above and Beyond the Call of Duty" Award. As part of her work with the Campus Christian Center, she developed and designed a handbook for use by future coordinators at the Campus Christian Center. Caitlin also developed *Shout Out!*, a weekly newsletter that keeps student chaplains in the residence halls abreast of timely news and events.



Caitlin Malone receives her award from Labor associate Darlene Stocker.

Jessa Turner Turns HomeGrown HideAways into an Obvious Winner

At a recent Appalachian Ideas Network (AIN) social venture showcase in Lexington, Kentucky, Jessa Turner's dream business concept, HomeGrown HideAways, took the top prize of \$2,500 to assist in launching her business. The senior's business plans stood out as the best among seven competitors from five colleges in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Georgia. Jessa will add her prize money to her business-launching fund, along with prize money she won in 2005 from the Southeastern Kentucky Concept Challenge's "Great Concept Award."

An independent sustainable building design major, Jessa developed the HomeGrown HideAways concept as an Entrepreneurship for the Public Good (EPG) summer institute fellow during the summer of 2005. Originally conceived as a for-profit business, Jessa says her model has evolved into a nonprofit as she has "clarified her goals." She says "being able to educate and empower others to take charge of their ecological impact" drives her to continue with her project.

In 2006, Jessa's EPG internship took her to Yestermorrow Design/Build School in Vermont, where she studied sustainable design, construction, woodworking, and architectural craft. Her short-term business goals include completing a comprehensive business plan, studying financial management, and grant writing/fundraising. She also plans to incorporate HomeGrown HideAways as a nonprofit, and continue to conduct workshops in sustainable design.



Jessa Turner in Vermont

Patrick McGrady

2007 Seabury Award Winner

By Linda C. Reynolds, '93

A freshman labor assignment doesn't always mean that position will lead to a life's vocation, but it has for Patrick McGrady, '07. Assigned as a Bonner Scholar to the Center for Excellence in Learning Through Service (CELTS), the Beckley, West Virginia native worked there all four years, immersing himself in its many service projects.

As a freshman he traveled to the nation's capital for a weekend service project to address homelessness and its effects. Working in a soup kitchen, Patrick first encountered this reality of life. Any preconceived ideas he had that homelessness was a lifestyle choice shattered for Patrick as he worked and talked one-on-one with the indigent men and women. This experience, he says, shook the foundation of the future he thought he wanted as a history major.

Returning to campus,

Patrick sought out sociology professor Thomas Boyd.

Discussing the impact this experience had on his

goals and future, he began to lay the groundwork for a major in sociology and his future career.

With clear, new goals as guides, his labor position and volunteerism expanded with his burgeoning interest. Under the CELTS umbrella Patrick became a role model for youth as a Boys & Girls Club mentor, a Berea Buddy volunteer, a CELTS chaplain, and a student director for the Students for Appalachia Summer Day Camp. He tackled poverty issues through his work with Empty Bowls, Hunger Hurts food drives, Hunger and Homelessness Week awareness, and Hurricane Katrina fundraising efforts.

He coordinated the People Who Care program which visits those in hospitals or extended care facilities; and as a student, he directed the Students for Appalachia program, which includes the environmental group HEAL, Berea Buddies, Adopt-a-Grandparent, teen mentoring, summer camp, and one-on-one tutoring of public school students. He also participated nationally in World AIDS Day, wrote letters to raise awareness for the ONE Campaign, to fight world hunger and presented at the national COOL/Idealist conference.

His passion did not go unnoticed. CELTS associate director Betty Hibler praised Patrick's excellent academic record and community work. She also mentioned his fun-loving, approachable demeanor which makes him such a good communicator and friend. In consideration of his outstanding service to Appalachia and the community through his labor assignment, Patrick received the Julia and Norbert Stammer Appalachian Service Award.

Service work is not unusual in the McGrady family. Patrick is the son of an educator who established pro-social programs, such as summer reading camps, elementary-to-junior-high transitional programs, and who worked

with at-risk-youth.

Patrick lost his father during his senior year at Berea, but he says he still feels close to his father's legacy. "I would like to be like my dad as far as my career goes."

Apparently he will do just that. After winning the Seabury Award for outstanding scholarship and campus leadership, Patrick will use the funds to attend Florida State University this fall to pursue a doctorate in sociology, emphasizing stratification and social justice. He also plans to minor in social psychology and statistics.

Boyd was not surprised that Patrick was the first sociology major to win the esteemed Seabury Award. "Patrick is able to work on several levels to be the accomplished sociologist that he is—intellectual, empathetic, and scientific as an impartial data collector."

The future looks bright for Patrick, and that light will brighten the lives of those he encounters. As he says, "I have learned to re-evaluate my motives for coming to college and realized that it is not about the money I can make, but more about the difference I can make."





Esther White

2007 Seabury Award Winner

By Debbie McIntyre, '10 and Linda C. Reynolds, '93

At 40-something, Esther White, '07, may not look like the typical recent Berea graduate on the outside, but on the inside, she fits the role perfectly. Esther was the female 2007 recipient of the Seabury Award, given to a graduating senior who has demonstrated outstanding scholarship and campus community leadership. Her love affair with the College goes way back.

Raised in the middle of six brothers, Esther was exposed to Berea as a child growing up in western North Carolina, when three older siblings were students here. The campus trips instilled a love in her for the city and its values. Fourteen years ago she moved here, deciding it was the perfect place to raise her children.

While working in a local retail store, she took an entrepreneurship class and eventually opened up her own store, which stayed afloat for four years. She then secured a job as an inspector in a local factory. "After about the third or fourth 50-hour week when I didn't get to spend any time with my kids, I thought, 'OK, Esther. It's time to make a big decision here. You've got more you can contribute than this.'" As a result, the mother of six applied to Berea College and was accepted, enrolling in the fall of 2003.

She began to pursue a degree in business administration, and her eventual work with the Entrepreneurship for the Public Good (EPG) program inspired her to make economics her area of concentration. Debbi Brock, business faculty and former EPG co-director, has been a great influence on Esther and the direction her life is taking next. While Esther worked as an EPG fellow and student employee, she rose to a supervisory position as student program manager. In 2006 she received the Berea College Outstanding Student Employee of the Year Award. Through EPG internships and class projects, she assisted with the creation of marketing, cost analysis, and other business management solutions for nonprofits.

"EPG's been a big part of rounding out my education here because it's given me some element of a real return that a business person can give back to a community and the public."

Esther co-authored a paper that won two writing contests in 2007, was a finalist for a Truman Foundation Scholarship, and received several other labor and academic awards during her college career. "I think the combination of the academics, being a part of EPG, and being part of this community has made me a whole different person than I was when I started out here," she says.

Her final semester turned out to be the toughest that she has had to face, not because of academics, but because a diagnosis of breast cancer left her facing periodic chemotherapy treatments during the spring semester. However, with her inborn tenacity and the encouragement and assistance of Brock, academic advisor Martie Kazura, her family, and many others, she made it through, graduating on target in May.

Esther isn't slowing down now that she has her bachelor's degree and has been accepted into the University of Kentucky Martin School of Public Policy Administration this fall. "I am really grateful to be able to take advantage of these things, and I'm excited and curious to see where it's going to lead."



More Colleges Should Be Like Berea

During Berea College's 135th commencement, one could not help but notice that this is a college like no other. As two-hundred forty-five students processed to their seats, some carried their children, while other children walked beside their parents. Nearly half of the graduating class represented the first in their families to receive a college degree.

These are accomplishments for which they should be especially proud, said commencement speaker Henry Louis Gates, Jr. "Berea College has been a model to the rest of America for over a century and a half. . . . America needs to catch up to Berea College." Noting Berea's long-held commitment to interracial education and affirmative action, he challenged graduates to continue the fight for justice. "We need equality as a fact, not just an ideal. Will you have the will to insist that the Berea ideal becomes the American ideal?" He urged students to "build the world you want to live in."

Gates, a Harvard University professor and renowned writer, critic, and activist, received an honorary doctor of humane letters degree just prior to his address, along with Jean Fairfax, a nationally known educator, philanthropist, and civil rights leader. Earlier in the day the nursing majors received special recognition during the annual pinning service at Union Church. The Rev. Dr. Alison Boden, dean of Rockefeller Memorial Chapel at The University of Chicago and author of numerous articles on religion, human rights, and social justice, delivered the baccalaureate service in Phelps Stokes Chapel.

During commencement three prestigious awards were granted to faculty and staff. Gary Mahoney, '82, received the Seabury Award for Excellence in Teaching. He chairs the technology and industrial arts department and has taught at Berea since 1989. The Paul C. Hager Award for Excellence in Advising was given to



Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. addresses Berea's 245 graduates.



Dr. David Porter won the Paul C. Hager Award for Excellence in Advising.



Dr. Nancy Ryan accepts the Elizabeth Perry Miles Award for Community Service.



Dr. Gary Mahoney, '82, received the Seabury Award for Excellence in Teaching.

David Porter, a psychology and general studies professor with a doctorate in experimental cognitive psychology. Dr. Nancy Ryan, a physician with the College Health Service, received the Elizabeth Perry Miles Award for Community Service. In particular, she was commended as a GED tutor, a rent and utility relief volunteer, and Berea Health Ministry volunteer.

Two students received top honors. Ni Ji, a biology and physics double major from Nanjing, China, received the Hilda Welch Wood Award for outstanding achievement by a graduating female student. The T.J. Wood Award for outstanding achievement by a graduating male student was given to Taylor Ballinger, a speech communications major from Richmond, Kentucky.

Other notable highlights included awarding a degree to seventy-nine-year-

old Bill Cass, now Berea's oldest recent graduate. Having left the College in 1965 one class shy of a degree, Cass completed an accounting course and claimed his prized degree in technology and industrial arts. He received a standing ovation. Graduating senior Jake Krack, a nationally renowned fiddler who received his degree in Appalachian Studies, played a lively rendition of "Sally Goodin'." He was accompanied on guitar by Dara Krack, his mother.

At commencement Earlene Rentz, a composer from Lancaster, Kentucky, heard the College concert choir sing her composition "All Nations of the Earth," a song inspired by the College's motto, "God hath made of one blood all peoples of the earth." The inaugural performance of her composition, "The Presence of the Lord," was performed by the choir at the baccalaureate service.



2007 Hilda Welch Wood Winner Ni Ji

By Normandi Ellis

A double biology and physics major, Ni Ji, a native of Nanjing, China, received the 2007 Hilda Welch Wood Award during commencement. The award recognizes an outstanding female senior demonstrating academic and personal excellence.

Before coming to Berea, Ni seldom traveled outside her town, but after reading an article about another Chinese student who attended Berea, she contacted him for more information. For years, she had been interested in the sciences, specifically in the human brain. "I wanted to know how people think," she says.

Ni has already made contributions to the field of neuroscience. In 2006 she worked as a research intern at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the lab of Dr. Susumu Tonegawa, a Nobel Prize recipient. Her research focused on the development of cell-type and tissue-specific transgenic mouse models for the study of drug addiction. "I chose to do research in neuroscience because I was most intrigued to learn how the human mind works," Ni says. "I want to know the physical basis that gives rise to a huge variety of different personalities and meanwhile the universal human desires and emotions."

Impressed with his young intern, Dr. Tonegawa asked Ni to present her research findings at the annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students in Anaheim, California in 2006. For her conference presentation, Ni discussed her research and exchanged ideas with faculty attendees and other students.

In addition to her work with MIT, Ni has performed off-campus undergraduate research at the University of Kentucky, the Mayo Clinic College in Minnesota, and the California Institute of Technology. She has also won awards at the Kentucky Academy of Sciences annual meeting in undergraduate research competitions.

Biology faculty member and department chair Dawn Anderson says, "Ni exemplifies all the best that a Berea student can be. We are very proud of her and all she has accomplished."

In turn, the young scientist credits Berea College faculty Ron Rosen and Dawn Anderson (biology) and Amer Lahamer and Kingshuk Majumdar (physics) for playing "critical roles" in her personal and academic growth. "Not only did these professors guide me through my academic endeavors, they have also offered me invaluable advice." Being a double major does not mean "just doubled work load, but also doubled enthusiasm," Ni says.

This fall, Ni enters MIT as a graduate student, where she plans to attain a doctorate in brain and cognitive sciences. Her ultimate goal is to become a faculty researcher at a university and continue delving into the human mind. "While the working mechanism of the human brain is extremely complicated and may take more than a lifetime to uncover, it is my hope that I will be able to help [in] pushing the field forward through my future research. The thing I love about science is that. . . you are constantly exploring something new and there are always chances for a great discovery."

Through her experiences as a summer intern, a teaching assistant, a research assistant, and as a leader in such diverse communities as the Pre-Med Club, the Mortar Board Society, and the American Chemistry Society, Ni has a great deal of experience in working with others for the good of all.

In reflecting on how far she has come in her academic and personal journey, Ni refers to the song *Berea Beloved*. "I think over the years, Berea College has become the beloved home for me in a country that once was entirely foreign to me."

T. J. Wood Award Winner Taylor Ballinger

By Linda C. Reynolds, '93

At the May 27 commencement, Taylor Ballinger received the prestigious T.J. Wood Award, given annually for outstanding achievement by a male graduate. In talking about his college experience, Taylor frequently uses the term “comfort zone” – a generic term for Richmond, Kentucky that includes his home near parents (Jackie Collier, '80 and Patrick Ballinger '81), extended family, and friends.

In high school, Taylor’s main objective was to find a small college close to home where he could receive individual attention. Berea College fit the criteria. What he hadn’t expected it to do was completely alter his comfort zone. Taylor credits Berea’s study abroad initiative, service component, and challenging professors for influencing decisions he has made. Those decisions will propel him on a journey that he has mapped out for himself over the next two years.

During Berea’s short term semesters, Taylor studied in Japan and Italy. While there he learned that within the different cultures there are lots of opportunities and “that I can be comfortable away from what is familiar to me. These experiences opened a lot of doors for me that I didn’t know I would ever want to try to open.”

The experiences also reinforced all he was learning on campus. “Berea became a stepping stone for me,” Taylor says. “I never knew I would change as a person by attending convocations, traveling, and learning about other cultures.”

Through classes with faculty members Andrew Baskin, Steve Pulsford, Billy Wooten, and others, Taylor was challenged to “look beyond the world I had known prior to coming to Berea.” Baskin encouraged his students to examine their

boundaries by questioning the reasons that support their beliefs, or causes them to examine new ideas. Taylor appreciated discussions in Wooten’s classes, which included discourse on race and sexuality, as well as exposure to diverse world views and cultural differences.

Last year, in an effort to raise awareness of sexual assault and harassment and to benefit the community at large, Taylor founded the Men Advocating Awareness of Rape and Sexual Assault group on campus. Drawn to service, he joined the Berea Buddies program where he met “Josh,” the primary school student with whom Taylor worked for four years. “Spending a couple of hours a week with him, I’ve been able to watch him grow up,” says Taylor. “Because he did not have many of the advantages that I took for granted at that age, I’ve tried to encourage him to pursue his dreams regardless of how unrealistic they may seem.”

While exploring future careers, Taylor, a speech communications major, learned about the Teach for America Program, which sends recent college graduates with high academic achievement and leadership skills into low-income communities. Its mission to close the educational achievement gap between rich and poor students “struck me as a noble cause; something I’d love to be a part of,” Taylor says.

This fall Taylor begins teaching in New Orleans. His interest in helping the struggling hurricane-ravaged city came as a result of a research assignment in Pulsford’s peace and social justice class. In talking with him and reading his assignments, Pulsford realized that his pupil’s interest went deeper than classroom pursuit. “Taylor’s commitment is such that he’s able to turn from the campus to the outside – to the world.”



Chocho Finds

By Beth Bissmeyer, '09

While I ate breakfast alone one morning Chomba Chocho, '07, came to my table and asked if he could join me. We introduced ourselves; after exchanging majors and hometowns, we talked some more. Chomba kept eye contact with me while I spoke about that day's stresses. Even though he had just met me, he treated my inane worries with care. Our breakfast conversation lasted no more than ten minutes, because I had to rush off to class, but that meeting stuck with me. Chomba stuck with me.

About a year later, I sat down with Chomba in the annex between our dorms, pen and paper in hand, a digital recorder ready to capture his soft-spoken voice above the bustle of students coming in and out of the building. He had something to say. I leaned in to hear it.

Chomba grew up in Zambia, the oldest of five children. His life was free of the violent conflicts that characterize other African nations. Even with relative peace, Zambia still has faced great economic challenges. In the late 80s and 90s, the government adopted a free-market economy that "caused lots of change," he says. "Many people got laid off when some of the biggest

companies became private. You could see economic desperation all over. Many people had very little to live on."

Chomba's father lost his job when the railroad company that employed him decided to downsize. He became a small-scale farmer growing maize and whatever would sell in the market and feed the family. "It was a big shift for him and the family because he had never farmed before." While his father took up farming, Chomba's mother continued working as a nurse, and their family was able to persevere.

It's that ability to persevere and 'to be okay' that Chomba finds most worthwhile about the Africans he knows. "Many African countries have challenges, but you see this spirit of resilience, and sometimes contentment, in the midst of not having much," he says. "The togetherness, the warmth that is there – I find that amazing."

That same appreciation later inspired Chomba to leave Zambia to come to Berea. "I was at a point in my life where I wanted to forge ahead professionally and continue my education," he says. Chomba's uncle—who worked in the U.S., but was visiting family in Lusaka, the capital of Zambia—brought with him a college guidebook. Flipping through the pages, Chomba stumbled upon the Berea College profile. "I researched the school, read the Great Commitments, and thought it was an attractive package, so I decided to apply," says Chomba. "I feel that my acceptance at Berea was an act of providence."

Coming to Berea allowed him to delve into business and social entrepreneurship, topics that had always interested him. "I love economic empowerment, the idea that people can shape their own economic destiny," says Chomba. "I want to help people get out of poverty. I feel that there's a lot I can contribute back home."

With a desire to go into business long-term and work in finance, investment, and consulting in Africa, Chomba is collecting ideas from his experiences here. During the summer 2005, he worked as a teaching

Common Ground

assistant for Entrepreneurship for the Public Good (EPG) program. Coordinating programs, providing research support, working on record management, and helping students with feasibility plans, Chomba gained a range of experience, some of the most useful being interacting with entrepreneurs in the Appalachian region.

“I met people who are coming up with initiatives to improve economic well-being in the area,” says Chomba. “I learned about the challenges of poverty in parts of Appalachia and the various solutions people in the area have created to end poverty. It was an enriching experience to get insight into their work.”



Chomba and Dr. Janice Blythe attended the fall African Student Association dinner.

Entrepreneurship classes took Chomba to see a training facility for entrepreneurs in Cincinnati where people could learn to run their own business, sharing resources with the Rural Development Center in Somerset, Kentucky. “At the Entrepreneurship Social Venture Showcase, I saw how local government had committed itself to creating structures where ideas and resources can be shared, and even money can be found, to address poverty and economic development,” says Chomba.

Last summer, Chomba was able to work in a nonprofit setting that shared similar goals when he interned at the nonprofit Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corporation in Boston. Working in the small

business division, Chomba helped small businesses and entrepreneurs with financing and technical advice, assisted with loan applications, and wrote business plans.

“Out-of-work clients would come in and ask ‘How do I go into business?’ I was able to help them create business plans so they could sustain themselves economically,” says Chomba. “It was a rewarding experience to be of use to someone in a tangible way that impacts the individual’s life and aspirations.”

Working and learning in these different settings inspired Chomba toward returning to Zambia, where his ultimate goal is to work in social entrepreneurship. “Those kind of experiences opened my eyes to ideas to affect change in communities back home,” he says.

Africa and Appalachia may seem worlds apart, but Chomba feels that we are all connected. “Since coming to Berea, I’ve really embraced the idea of a human family. We speak different languages, but we express the same desires. The human family has one grand aim: to look for meaning, to look for a purpose, to find a definition. It’s the kind of search we are all in,” says Chomba. “The more I see people from around the world – whether from Asia or Kentucky – I see that we have a common set of challenges. Berea brings all these experiences into one place and has affirmed the idea of a human family.”

As a member of this global family, Chomba worked with Berea’s chapter of the African Student Association (ASA), serving as its president during his senior year. He helped the organization to develop a focus on service, education, and outreach and to sponsor events that promoted education about Africa. African Awareness Week celebrated African culture and provided information about the African Diaspora. Several other ASA forums looked at the problems of foreign aid. “We want to engage the campus community to think on issues, reflect on them, and possibly draft solutions,” says



Chomba joins professor Brock with finance team members, Jared Wisecarver, '07, and Tenzin Tsering, '08.

Chomba. This spring semester, ASA began sponsoring a child from Niger through the Care-For-A-Child program, raising funds from the campus community.

“All places around the world have challenges. Africa has unique, pressing, and demanding challenges. I believe problems in Africa and around the world are not exclusive to the people of those areas; they’re human challenges,” says Chomba. “We’re a global community. The welfare of one group of people is directly related to the welfare of another group of people. That connectedness places responsibility on every member of the global village to act.”

When I ask Chomba about his future plans, he smiles and rattles off a list of possibilities. After working in finance, he says, he would use that knowledge to set up his own business, “maybe an investment company in Africa that would provide capital for growth,” says Chomba. “I’ve toyed with the idea of setting up a business school or starting education programs or micro-lending projects to help people in rural areas become self-sustaining.”

Chomba sticks with you. He made a deep impression on those with whom he worked in EPG. Business assistant professor Debbi Brock says, “Chomba is an exceptional student who believes in the power of individuals to achieve their dreams. I look forward to watching him grow and learn as he makes an impact on the lives of others.”

An Ecologist in Exile –

by Robert Campbell, '09 and Normandi Ellis

In the northernmost point of India, there is a high altitude desert region called Ladakh. Its mountains make up the tallest landscape in Asia, and its water is drawn almost entirely from the slow-melting supply of falling snow. Within Ladakh, rests a place called “Little Tibet,” a community of people in exile. Tibet no longer exists. Even before that territory was claimed by the Chinese government, explorers and seekers thought of it as a mythic place – a utopia called Shambala.

The southern border of the former Tibet and the northern border of Ladakh share a geographical boundary. The Himalaya Mountains are the highest mountains on earth, a dangerous passage that many Tibetan refugees were forced to travel before reaching their new home in India. The first families of Little Tibet lived in refugee camps, trying to keep alive the spirit of their home country through traditional Buddhist religious practices. Between the walls of buildings flutter *lungtha* – the colorful flags inscribed with prayers for the liberation of all sentient beings.

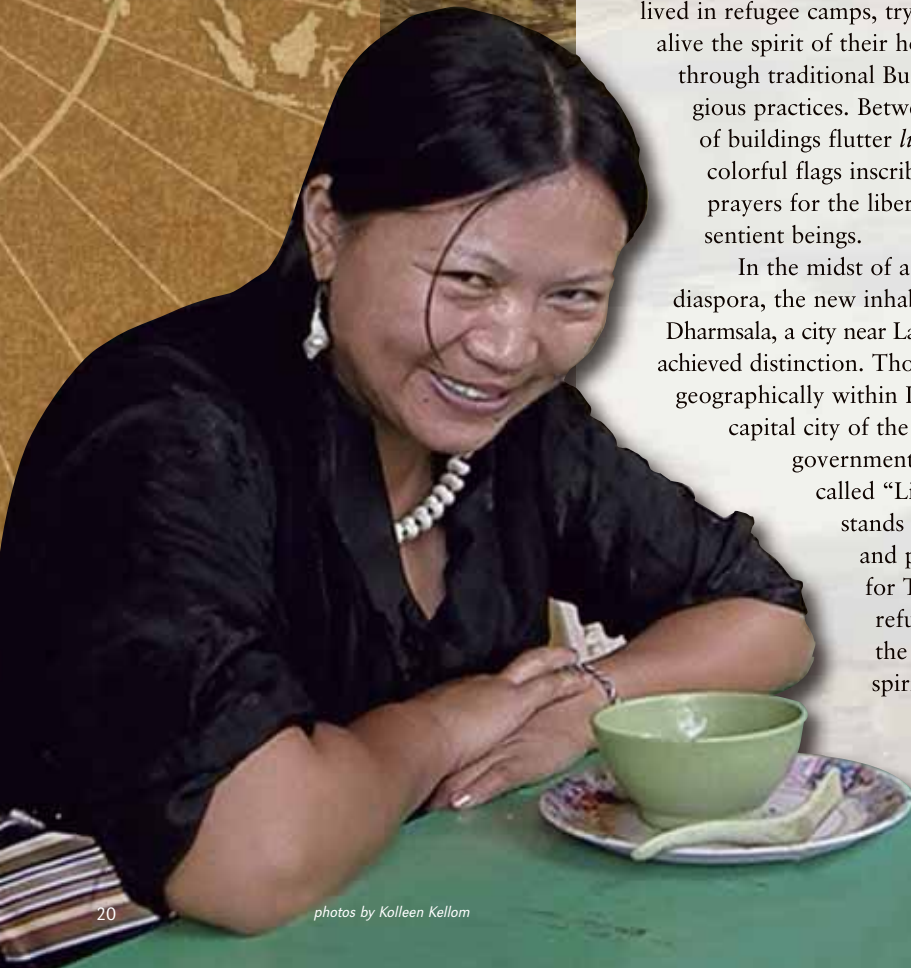
In the midst of a great cultural diaspora, the new inhabitants of Dharmsala, a city near Ladakh, achieved distinction. Though it is geographically within India, this capital city of the Tibetan government-in-exile, called “Little Lhasa,” stands as a spiritual and political center for Tibetan refugees. Here is the home of its spiritual teacher,

His Holiness, the Dalai Lama, and many people from around the world throng to this place hoping to attain a glimpse of the enlightened society that once was a part of utopia.

Yet, the modern world has thrust itself into the recesses of this remote landscape. Enter Tsering Yangkey, '95, whose aim is to make her people aware of the pollution associated with modern life and the importance of preserving a traditional connection to the natural world. Tsering, who was raised in Ladakh, came to Berea in 1991 and was one of the first Tibetans-in-exile to study at Berea College. The program was established through cooperation with then-president John Stephenson and the Dalai Lama. Since then Berea has enrolled 35 students from the Tibetan community, many of whom have returned to the region to aid their communities.

While she was here, Tsering received numerous academic honors, including the Crawford Prize for conservation, wildlife preservation, and natural history, and the John S. Bangson Biological Science Award, as well as a scholarship from Phi Kappa Phi. She interned at the University of Virginia and the International Crane Foundation, before completing her master's degree in environmental pollution control at Penn State in 1997.

Education and determination have served Tsering well. “Although my parents did not get the chance to go to school,” she says, “they wanted their children to be educated in order to fulfill their dreams.” Like many families in India, Appalachia, and beyond, her parents nurtured her vision. Tsering says, “Even though I was not born in Tibet, I grew up with the stories of Tibet. They made sure I remembered the names of rivers, mountains, deities, animals, birds, and the like of our ancestral base.”



Tsering Yangkey

That ancestral base remains alive and active for those who remember. Bon, the indigenous religion of Tibet, asserts the interconnectedness of the spirit world and the natural world. Mountains are imbued with personalities. According to Tsering, “Anything from a rock to a tree to a river has a spirit present in it, and precautions are taken not to disturb the spirit world.”

Today Tsering leads a nonprofit organization called Tesi Environmental Awareness Movement (TEAM), dedicated to “reviving the ecological consciousness of the Tibetan people by rekindling their traditional ecological values, and by introducing them to modern, pro-nature ways of living.”



At the foot of the Dalai Lama's residence a cow searches for tidbits left in styrofoam containers by tourists and visitors.

“Unfortunately,” Tsering says, “in the last 50 years we Tibetans have journeyed from zero waste to a wasteful society. These days there is hardly any Tibetan function without the presence of plastic bags, Styrofoam platters, and plastic pop bottles. We want our people to know the consequences of burning plastics and dumping toxic trash in open land. Our

people have the right to know what dioxins, plasticizers, and other toxins could do to their health. They need to know the harmful effects that an unsanitary environment can have on their health.”

In response, Tsering and her TEAM members have begun to address these concerns through outreach workshops on environmental issues. This past March in Dharmsala, TEAM conducted a daily clean up for the two-week duration of the Dalai Lama's teaching. Near the temple they placed 200 reusable trash bags to help manage waste disposal.

“An event like this, which draws tens of thousands of people for a short period of time, inflicts a heavy environmental toll in the local area,” says Tsering. TEAM asked the devotees to adapt their lifestyles and behavior so that the local environment and the people of Dharmsala would not suffer the consequences of so much traffic.

She noted that since its inception in the early 1960s the temple community near Bir has not found a proper dumping area for its trash. As a result, local streams are fouled by food waste, used batteries, and Styrofoam platters. In June during World Environment Day, TEAM members worked with community leaders there to discuss alternative shopping, waste segregation, recycling, reusing, and composting. TEAM also sponsored essay and drawing competitions for younger community members. Prayers were offered, and trees were planted and watered as a gesture of appreciation to the Earth and as a sign of humankind's connection to plants.

Tsering thanked those who had supported TEAM for the last two years: the Dalai Lama Trust, Care for the Wild International, the Rowell Fund, Dharma Gaia Trust, Rainforest Information Centre, and Marc Rosenbaum. To date, TEAM has given more than 20 workshops in schools

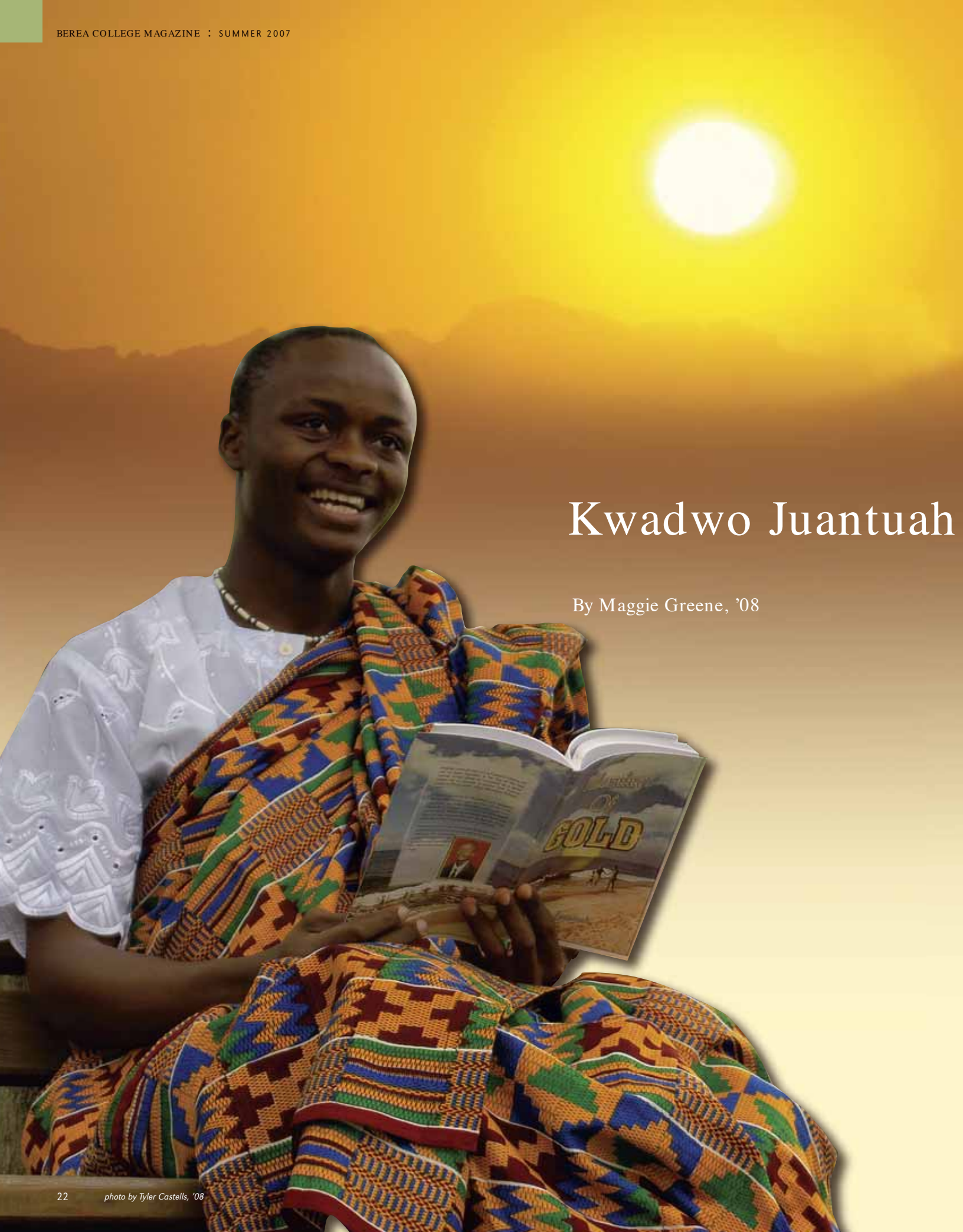


Tsering amid the prayer flags at Norbulingka Institute

and settlements on biodiversity conservation and waste management. At the end of the day volunteers and community members retired with Tibetan tea to watch Al Gore's documentary *An Inconvenient Truth*.

The inspiration to tackle such a large global issue, Tsering says, came from her field studies of botany with Dr. Ralph Thompson at Berea College and her work with Students for Appalachia. “I had many fulfilling moments as a faithful servant of Mother Nature while picking up trash on highways and cleaning the nearby creek,” Tsering recalls.

Two years after she founded TEAM, Tsering continues the task of educating those in the temples, schools, and communities of Ladakh. She longs to return to the spiritual and ecological underpinnings of her people, which once so eloquently offered to the world an image of peace and harmony with nature in a beautiful, high mountain utopia called Shambala.



Kwadwo Juantuah

By Maggie Greene, '08

In a land of strangers
 Patience [is] the supporting power
 Perseverance the pushing spirit
 Love the combining force
 Determination the hope
 Hard work the labor
 And success the reward

—Kwadwo Juantuah, from *Morning of Gold*

and his *Morning of Gold*

In Kumasi, Ghana, Kwadwo “Kojo” Juantuah, ’09, was not born with a silver spoon in his mouth. He was born with a great dream.

Kojo grew up in Accra, the capital of Ghana, a bustling coastal city. He lived with his grandmother, a retired schoolteacher, who instilled in him the importance of studying. Every morning he walked to a small schoolhouse, where students of all ages and circumstances studied together. For children in Ghana, Kojo says, “education is the only escape from poverty.”

From morning until five each evening, Kojo kept his nose in a book, trying to beat the odds. Like many children in Ghana, he shouldered household responsibilities, but homework always came first.

His hard work propelled him to the top of his class; he made straight A’s, all the way through ninth grade. Consistently placing first in his class, he was the only student in the school to make A’s in all ten subjects on the final national exam. His grandmother expected no less. Only the best of the best are chosen to enter high school in Ghana and he had to compete for a spot like everyone else. Although it was

difficult to get into this elite school, Kojo got in. Shortly after his first high school semester, he applied for the coveted Head of State Award, usually presented to recipients by Ghana’s president. It was an award he had worked his whole life to attain. “All of a sudden the opportunity was snatched from me. It was a really painful experience.”

In spite of his qualifications, Kojo was never interviewed.

He asked himself why he had studied so hard – why, if he was so qualified, was he overlooked? After years of academic excellence, he stared rejection in the face. When rejection stared back, Kojo set another goal for himself.

At age 16, he decided to publish a collection of poems that he had started writing at age 12. Kojo sought a book publisher and mentally set a date for publication: July 12, 2003 – *no matter what*, he recalls thinking. He told classmates, friends, family, and neighbors about his project, but he confesses that few of them believed in the dream. “Of course,” he says, “they were all very nice in the beginning when I told them about the idea, but when

it came to money, no one could give their support.”

Knowing he needed larger resources, he walked to the Ghanaian president’s home and asked to see the first lady. Although she was unavailable, he told her assistant about his dream and his deadline, cordially inviting the first lady’s involvement. A bank granted him printing funds, but three weeks before the 12th of July, Kojo had received only partial funding. After several attempts, Kojo met with the bank manager and put forth his urgent request for the rest of the grant funds.

Having spent all of his money on printing, he began to promote his book. Many days he walked more than four miles, inviting people to his book launch on Saturday, July 12th. The First Lady of Ghana was among the first to be invited, as well as ministers of state, and other prominent poets and authors. The media, he realized, should be notified months in advance. Kojo took a chance and invited them, anyway – and anyone else who might be interested.

Three days before his book launch, he still had no books because the printer needed final payment. At the bank, Kojo found that he had forgotten his identification card. Frantically, he ran a long way home and back in order to attain the rest of the money so that he would actually have the book to launch.

On Friday, Kojo could only trust that in less than 24 hours his dream would be realized. On Saturday morning, he woke at 5 a.m. realizing he had not written his speech or prepared the venue where the launching would occur at 10 a.m. At 7 a.m., he still had no books, but by 8:30 a.m., the books arrived.

After “fighting against the storm,” Kojo says, he watched in amazement as not only the local papers, but the national media, television, and the ministers of state arrived to support his project. He calls July 12, 2003 the true ‘Morning of Gold’ because that day, he reached for the stars and grabbed them.

He hoped that by example, “I would be able to inspire other young Ghanaians so that no matter the circumstance, they might reach out and live their dreams. It

was to be a revolution in which young people believed in themselves, their latent power, and what they could do with their innate talents.”

As a high school senior, Kojo became an exchange student in Pocahontas County, West Virginia. He lived with the family of Micah Johnson, ’08, who also encouraged Kojo to look into Berea. Micah calls him one-of-a-kind. “He has shot for high places and succeeded in going to a school where he will have a voice and an influence on campus.” Kojo radiates charisma, Micah says. He believes that Kojo will do great things. “He has an internal drive that inspires those around him to reach their own dreams.”

After finishing high school with honors in rural West Virginia, Kojo returned home for a year before starting his undergraduate education. His family pushed him to find a job. In Ghana, graduates are required to work for a year for the National Service.

Kojo competed with 400 of ‘the best brains in Ghana’ for 20 top-level positions. He applied to the same lending institution that funded his book of poetry, *Morning of Gold*. Fresh from high school, he sat alongside college graduates in a stark room with only a pencil and the toughest mathematical exam administered in the area.

While he awaited news of the outcome, Kojo traveled around Ghana writing poetry about “waterfalls streaming,” “mountains capped with snow,” and “fish in the river flowing gentle and meek.” It was not long before he received a call from the bank congratulating him on placing second on its strenuous exam. He couldn’t believe it. In fact, he even called the bank a few days later to confirm it.

Because he was only a high school graduate, he was granted a year-long internship in the brokerage division, working directly with clients by giving financial advice. It was only a matter of time, he felt, before he would be on his way to a lifelong career. After his internship, Kojo applied for college. Having missed the Berea deadline for that term, he applied to eight other prestigious schools, but was unable to afford their fees. In 2006, matters took an upward turn. He received an acceptance letter from Berea College, a

Ghanaian youth leadership award, and shortly thereafter, a plane ticket to America.

“It took a strong will and determination to make it through and, thanks to Berea’s free scholarship, I am living out my dream of receiving a well-rounded education.” Kojo has excelled at Berea. He was selected for the freshman honor society and has served as president of the African Student Association and of the freshman and sophomore classes.

His family’s misgivings about his assimilation into American culture, he says, are offset by his determination to use his studies in economics and computer science to give back to his own culture. Kojo wants to “touch people’s lives,” he says, by channeling resources to give other bright Ghanaian teens the opportunity for a high-quality education. He wants to inspire them to realize their dreams and reach for the stars. He hopes that the creation of a website, his current long-term project, will facilitate educational opportunities for Ghanaians. He sees the website as a means of providing access to those people who are “actually shaping policies.” He wants to be part of mending economic bridges, to draw attention to talent, and to reward those who deserve it, but may live in impoverished or disadvantaged communities. He plans to return to Ghana to do just that.

“There is no excuse for mediocrity. There is no reason to fail,” Kojo says.

He may know this better than anyone else and, according to his former host brother, “he refuses to let anyone pity him.” Kojo wants to see hope and determination passed on to his children and their descendants, so that they may come to know “the meaning of the story of *Morning of Gold*.”

“I get broken-hearted,” he says, “when I realize that the only image people have of Africa is war, disease, starvation, and abject poverty. I look beyond all of those things into the beauty of the smiles of the people and the rich history we recount in our songs. I look past the gloomy night that is today into the beautiful sunrise that is tomorrow.”

Finding His Way Home

By Debbie McIntyre, '10
and Amanda Hensley, '10

On an empty corridor of Seabury Center, before he suits up to give swimming lessons, Peter Thiong, '08, (pronounced THEE-ong) eases his tall, muscular frame into a chair. According to the birth date he was assigned by immigration officials, Peter is 28. He leans over, thoughtfully fingering his John Deere cap as he recalls his early childhood in a Southern Sudan village near the White Nile River.



His father was a businessman who lived and worked in the city of Juba, until the war led the family to resettle in the village of Baidit. Peter's family, which consisted of his father's four wives and their children, raised cattle and grew sorghum and corn for their own consumption. They lived among about 9,000 members of their Dinka clan, of which his grandfather was the chief. The soft-spoken young man fondly remembers village celebrations, climbing trees, and learning how to swim.

"I still think of home a lot. I love that place. Though it has been 20 years ago, I still think of it as it was."

That idyllic life changed when the ongoing civil war between the northern Arab Muslims and the southern Christians came to Baidit one day. Peter's parents saw smoke rising from surrounding villages that were being torched by northern raiders. They quickly gave Peter and his two older brothers, Kuai and Deng, some food and told them to flee. Boys were the soldiers' chief targets because they were seen as future warriors. "No matter how old you were, they would kill you," Peter says. He and his brothers ran without turning back.

He never saw his parents, stepmothers, or other siblings again.

Hounded by the raiders, they joined hundreds and then thousands of other boys walking as fast and as far as they could, day after day, to stay alive. "Sometimes I told my brothers that I didn't want to walk anymore, that I wanted to quit," says Peter. "But they wouldn't let me. My brothers took turns carrying me on their backs." Some boys without brothers gave up. "If you stopped walking, you were left behind." Peter says they were fortunate to have some adults in their group who occasionally shot wild animals for them to eat.

Many of the boys starved or fell behind to be killed by wild animals or marauders. After walking for a month, they reached a refugee camp across the Ethiopian border. There they and an estimated 21,000 homeless and orphaned boys lived, ranging in age from 5-11 years. Peter and those like him would later be called the Lost Boys of Sudan, after their story became the subject of an Emmy-nominated documentary.

In Ethiopia, relief agencies fed, sheltered, and clothed them. Peter first

learned to count and read and write the alphabet by practicing with sticks in the dirt. This camp was home to the brothers for about four years. Then in 1991, war turned his life upside down again. Ethiopian rebels, funded by the northern Sudanese, approached the camp one night, attempting to force the refugees to flee back into Sudan.

The boys fled. They arrived at the flooded Gilo River around 3 a.m. and waited for daylight. At dawn they began the perilous crossing in canoes. The boys were organized in units for the journey. Peter was fortunate that he got across before the raiders arrived. "It surprised everyone. We heard some bangs. I was looking back to the other side when the rebels appeared, shooting at us. Most of the people didn't know how to swim. You could either stand on the bank and be shot, or jump in the water with the crocodiles and try to escape. Many drowned or were shot that day."



Peter's summer labor position involved teaching swimming at Seabury Center's pool.

Tyler Castells, '08

Kuai and Deng were in a different unit, and the siblings didn't know each other's fates until the massacre ended. When they arrived in the border town of Pochalla, Sudan, only about 11,000 of the refugees had survived, according to Peter. They didn't stay long because the Sudanese army and Ethiopian rebels were in pursuit. After a month of struggling on foot to keep ahead of the soldiers, they arrived at a refugee camp in Buma, Sudan. By then, many were near starvation and their bodies could not adapt to the beans and millet they were given; many more died as a result.

Kuai and Deng left Peter in Buma. Now teenagers, they volunteered for the

Sudan Liberation People's Army to fight the Arab-dominated government army. At sunset one day, Kuai stopped to tell Peter goodbye for the both of them. He handed Peter some gifts, including a wooden cross. "He paused for some minutes and looked in my eyes and told me to seriously go after my education regardless of where I would be," Peter recalls. "He said that I should be strong regardless of what happens because he is going to fight the enemy."

Alone and confused, Peter sought company in friends and distant relatives, but still found himself waking from nightmares.

Eventually, he was moved to Kakuma, a large refugee camp in the Kenyan desert. In 1992 a wounded relative of Peter's came to the camp for treatment. He found Peter and delivered sad news to him. Both parents and two sisters had died in the war; Kuai and Deng had survived less than one year in the army.

"That was a bad day," Peter recalls.

In Kakuma, he and several other boys built themselves a small hut of timber and thatching. They attended evening class with 60 other students, using one small blackboard to learn math and English. In his small, allotted garden patch, Peter grew kale and sold it in the market. "I decided that I wanted to buy my own book instead of sharing one, so I saved the money from my kale for a long time. (The book) felt good in my hands."

The crowded camp also included refugees from the Congo, Zaire, Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Rwanda. Sanitation was poor, and Peter contracted typhoid fever. The hot desert exacerbated his condition. He was allowed to go to Chukudum, Sudan, where he received the medication needed to recover. Since the climate was better there, Peter decided to go to a nearby refugee camp where "I found out that I was one of the only educated people. I had finished the eighth grade, and I realized that I had a lot more (knowledge) than they did."

Wanting to help his countrymen, Peter earned a teaching certificate. For about a year he taught primary math and science to children, teens, and adults in the settlement of New Cush. "I felt very energetic, and it made me happy, because I was helping my people," he says.

When he returned to Kenya, Peter was told he was being sent to live in

America. Though he had been offered the chance to go a year before, he had turned it down because he feared being humiliated



Peter Thiong participates in a presentation about organic gardening at the Madison County Extension Service.

and unwelcome because of his race. But, he says, "I was encouraged by my uncle to come because there were a lot of opportunities here for education." Remembering the parting words of Kuai, he decided to go. Peter arrived in America on September 5, 2001.

In Louisville he was greeted by cousins from his tribe and lived with them, supported by Americans eager to help. Peter took a college entrance exam and began taking classes at a community college. In 2003 he learned that his young half-brother had survived the war and made it to the Kakuma camp along with a cousin. Family ties are tight among the Dinkas, and Peter began sending them tuition for boarding school.

Peter learned of Berea College and its reputation from his Louisville sponsor. American friends made his enrollment possible by offering to pay for his brother and cousin's schooling temporarily. Thus, Peter arrived on campus for the spring semester 2005 and is pursuing a degree in agriculture and natural resources.

He has worked at the College farm and, now, at Seabury Center, where he teaches children to swim. He is always mindful of the Gilo River tragedy, where

about 1,000 children drowned. "Nobody knows the tragic things that may occur near the water in one's lifetime," he says. He does this to "pay back to America the good things it has done for me."

At Berea, Peter is a member of the African Student Association and has worked to educate the College community about the wars in Sudan. "It is hard to understand something when you see it on television," says Peter. "It is much better to hear it from someone and to look into their eyes."

During a peace and social justice class, he took part in a peace march on Washington, D.C. Professor Michael Rivage-Seul says, "Peter's accounts of his personal experience of war and genocide sobered us all in our discussions that otherwise might have remained much more abstract and general."

After graduation, Peter hopes to attain a master's degree in agriculture. After he receives dual citizenship, he wants to return to Southern Sudan to work with the United Nations, possibly pursue a doctorate degree, and get involved in politics.



Now using a laptop, headphones, and a calculator, Peter appreciates the technology that assists in learning.

He also knows the loamy soil of his region has good potential for growing abundant crops. He hopes to operate a large model farm there. "Food is a problem in my part of Africa. I will be able to go home and show people how to grow crops in a more efficient way. I just want to feed my people."

He Arrived

By Leslie Ferguson-Oles, '05

Mulbah Zowah, '08, left his home country of Liberia with only the clothes on his back, his travel documents cradled in a small book bag, and an empty stomach. He departed from his home at the height of a brutal 13-year-long civil war that left 250,000 of his fellow citizens dead and just as many displaced.

Despite the danger of leaving his country in the midst of such a conflict, Mulbah was determined to reach Berea for the start of the fall 2003 semester. He traveled nearly 40 days throughout the countryside of Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone, trying to gain permission to leave West Africa. Alina Strand, who was international student advisor at the time, tracked his movements through the region via telephone calls from Mulbah. She helped him navigate the dysfunctional governmental procedures of the war-torn area, in order for him to arrive in Berea just a few days before classes began. "I knew we had someone special on our hands when he arrived, and there was no luggage with him," Alina recalls.

Though dehydrated and disoriented upon his arrival, the international student soon found a home in Berea. He credits this sense of home to the campus community and his host family. Even though Mulbah has found a place of nurture, he has never forgotten why he is here – to study nursing for the aid of his homeland.

Today, clad in his Berea nursing scrubs and obviously comfortable in his surroundings, Mulbah recalls his first days in Berea with intensity. "I got to Berea on the last day of (domestic) student orientation. Other international students had been here for two weeks—I was just disoriented."

The shock of being on the college campus of a foreign country was further compounded by a case of malaria.



with Nothing but Hope

“He was apparently ill when he arrived,” recalls Alina. “He was shaking all over, sweating, and lethargic. We took him to the hospital where he stayed until the quinine took effect and he was better.”

Having arrived without luggage, Mulbah had another pressing need – clothing. “At first he didn’t want to go shopping with me because he was afraid I was spending my own money,” remembers Alina. “But I told him that we had a grant for him to get some clothes, so he was okay. Essentially, we used some funds from President Shinn.”

President Shinn also mentioned Mulbah’s amazing journey in that year’s freshman chapel service. Alina recalls that Mulbah “was surprised to find that Dr. Shinn mentioned him by name and told the story of how he came to Berea. He was very shy, but also he was proud to be mentioned by the president.”

Such a dramatic arrival in Berea created an outpouring of support from the campus community, which helped Mulbah’s transition into his new life. “Everyday I would go to my campus post office box and there would be cards and gifts from people I didn’t even know,” Mulbah says. “Everyone in Berea tried to be like a brother, like a sister, or like a family. That’s the memory that I can’t forget.”

Mulbah also thinks that his host family greatly assisted his transition. His host mother, Barbara Prairie, lives just a few minutes from campus. Barbara says that she really came to know Mulbah during the first summer that he stayed with her. “We used to sit in the kitchen and talk and talk and talk,” she remembers, noting how

Mulbah was always open to sharing his experiences in Liberia. Mulbah has stayed at Barbara’s house every academic break since, becoming a real member of the family. “I’ve never had a son,” says Barbara. “It’s a real treat.”

Mulbah says that his mother in Liberia “always praises God” for his host family. Mulbah is proud that his ‘two mothers’ have even talked together on the phone and that Barbara would like to eventually accompany Mulbah on a visit to Liberia.



Barbara Prairie, Mulbah, and Alina Strand

Both Barbara and Mulbah agree that the most significant part of their relationship came when Barbara’s husband, Michael Boardman, was dying during December 2005. “Mulbah was here a lot at the end,” remembers Barbara. “His thoughtful dedication is beyond my imagination.” Mulbah helped to feed and bathe Michael and even sat up with him at night, although it was the week of his examinations.

“I felt the need to provide that care,” says Mulbah. “I felt good about it.”

Mulbah also has close relationships with all of Barbara and Michael’s children,

who live in various parts of the country. “Everyone of all ages loves Mulbah. He is comfortable socially with anyone of any age,” says Barbara. Perhaps this is why Mulbah is such a good nurse.

Before he came to Berea, Mulbah spent nearly six years helping his uncle run a health clinic in the war-torn capital of Monrovia. Mulbah removed bullets from flesh and administered IVs for dehydration. “When the war happened, there weren’t a lot of doctors, but the people were completely wounded. It was a terrible situation,” Mulbah recalls. “Since then, I’ve wanted to be a nurse.”

Now that he has almost completed his study, he is looking ahead to the future. After graduation, Mulbah hopes to attend graduate school in pursuit of a master’s degree in public health – a degree he needs to attain his ideal job with the United Nations as a public health worker. “More than six percent of the population in Liberia has AIDS,” says Mulbah gravely, “and those are just the ones that have reported it.” Mulbah wants to teach people in the West African region how to prevent AIDS.

This summer he plans a return to Liberia for a month-long internship in an AIDS clinic there. This will be the first time he has returned home since he left four years ago. “I am so excited,” says Mulbah, with a wide grin across his face. Although he has found a home in Berea, he still looks towards his home in Liberia.

Barbara says of Mulbah, “He is very, very focused. He has never forgotten why he is here.”

Heart and Soul of the

By Julie Sowell



De-An Watkins

Before every Lady Mountaineer basketball game, an important ritual takes place. The championship tournament for the Kentucky Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (KIAC) in Louisville was no different. The team forms a circle, arms around each other. As they sway back and forth, De-An Watkins, senior co-captain from Athens, Alabama, leads the chant:

**What time is it? Game time!
What are we gonna do? Win!
How we gonna do it? Defense!
What else? Offense!
Who you with? BC!
Who you with? BC!
Who you with? Represent BC!**



Let the Game Begin

De-An learned the chant from her high school team and adapted it to Berea. It's just one part of her role as the unofficial soul of the Lady Mountaineers. Although she was injured in the first game of the conference championship tournament in Louisville, she still pounded out a remarkable performance as point guard when she could play, and as emotional coach when her injury sidelined her to the bench.

On the floor, co-captain and shooting guard Rebecca May of Waynesville, Kentucky was on fire. She led the team in a down-to-the wire, upset victory over number one seed Alice Lloyd College in the final game that clinched the KIAC championship. As the final buzzer sounded, May was mobbed by her teammates.

When she emerged from the pile on the floor, her face still red from exhaustion and emotion, she had secured a second trip to the nationals for her team. In the three conference tournament games, the standout scored 85 points and nabbed 25 rebounds.

Over the last four years, De-An Watkins and Rebecca May have played indispensable roles in the Little Engine that Could story of the Berea College Lady Mountaineers.

Bunky Harkleroad, '93, now in his seventh year as head coach, introduced a version of the running game strategy that Dave Arsenault developed for Grinnell College. The play is fast; the shooting is furious. It's different from the way most teams play. "We rely on every player,"

says Bunky. "We try to use everybody on the roster early in the game, build chemistry, and build team from that. We substitute frequently, and we don't always have our best five players on the court together. We play a lot of different combinations, and the chemistry issue is very important," says Bunky. After first going with this system, I decided to stick with it, because our players bought into it so well. They get excited when other people improve and egos get on the same plane as well."

During De-An and Rebecca's tenure, the team has won more than 20 games, and back-to-back conference championships in 2006 and 2007 – a first for Berea. The coach can't say enough about the importance of Rebecca and De-An in these achievements. "They've been good basketball players,

Lady Mountaineers



photo by Kris Hammonds

great teammates, and they have really great attitudes,” he says. “They’ve done what I’ve asked of them, but they’ve taken things a step further. They’ve inspired their teammates, and they’ve played big when they had to play big.”

Winning the tournament was a thrilling experience, says Rebecca. “To pull through and actually show what we were made of, because we hadn’t during the regular season – it was just overwhelming.”

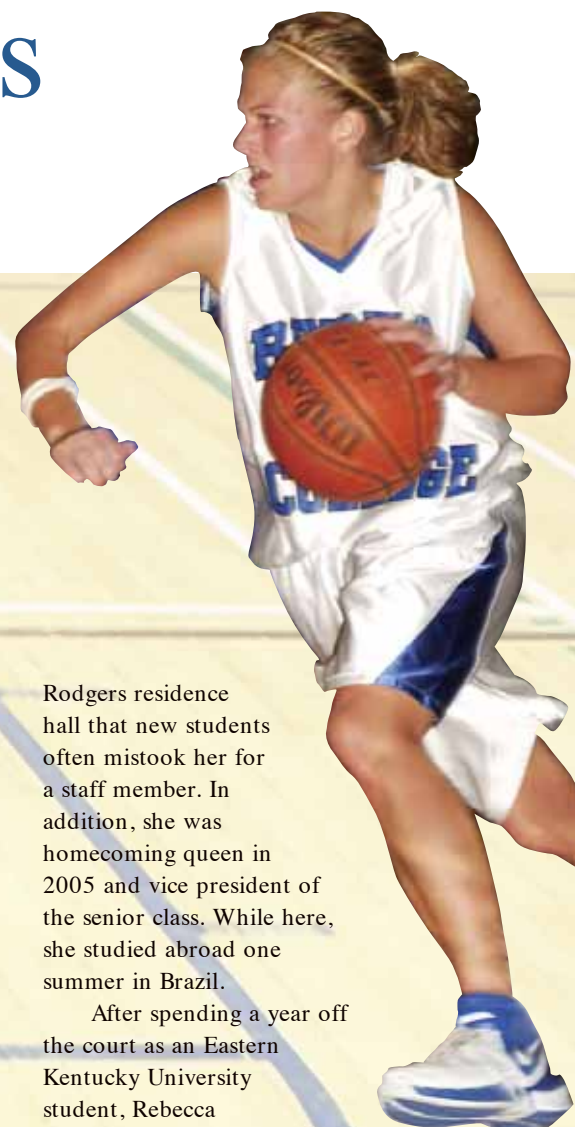
“Last year we went through the conference and the tournament beating almost every team by 10-15 points,” says De-An, “but this year we were barely winning, even though we had a more talented team. Coach kept telling us we were the underdogs. We’re going to have to go out and get it, and that’s what we did.”

De-An and Rebecca: Making Berea Proud

De-An Watkins came to Berea because of its reputation and affordability. Having played basketball in high school, she decided to try out at Berea for the fun of it. In her first three years, she played a variety of positions, finally settling as main point guard this season. “When it became her time to lead, she was great at it,” says Bunky. “De-An has always had all the characteristics to be a really strong leader, but she wasn’t always sure she possessed those qualities. Over time we just saw that develop in her.”

Going into the national tournament De-An led all NAIA-II players in assist-turnover ratio. This year she led the team in total rebounds, offensive rebounds, assists, steals, and assist-turnover ratio. In her college career she ranks second in all-time assists and third in rebounds.

Basketball was one part of De-An’s rich and full life at Berea. She distinguished herself in her majors – political science and sociology, receiving the 2007 Albert G. Weidler Memorial Scholarship for social studies. She was inducted in the Mortar Board honor society in 2006. Like all Berea students, she held a campus job, most recently as program coordinator in the Black Cultural Center. She sang with the College’s Black Music Ensemble for four years and was so active in Elizabeth



Rebecca May

Rodgers residence hall that new students often mistook her for a staff member. In addition, she was homecoming queen in 2005 and vice president of the senior class. While here, she studied abroad one summer in Brazil.

After spending a year off the court as an Eastern Kentucky University student, Rebecca discovered how much she missed basketball. “Growing up with a big brother and playing against him in all kinds of sports made me competitive,” she says. Rebecca transferred to Berea, where she knew she could both play ball and get a great education.

She became one of Berea’s most outstanding players, breaking both school and national records. In her junior and senior years, she led the team in points scored and blocked shots. She holds the school records for the most points scored in one season and for three-point shots made. She also holds the national NAIA-II record for three-pointers made in one season. She’s a member of Berea’s 500 Rebound Club, her career 446 three-point shots are the most in College history, and she is the College’s all-time leading scorer, with 2,108 points. In 2005 Rebecca



De-An Watkins and Rebecca May, off-court

Alice Ladford, '07

Leaders On and Off the Court

For Rebecca, leadership is about action more than anything. “Early in Rebecca’s junior year, “Bunky says, “we lost a couple of games in Northern Ohio and she started to develop this look – you could tell when she was really mad She just started to show a level of fire, and you could see something had kind of clicked.” Because of her ability to play at the top of her game when the chips were down, her teammates gave her the nickname “Clutch.”

De-An took her leadership role seriously. “People look up to you. People see you both on and off the courts. People are watching you everywhere you go. As a leader you have to recognize that, and I tried to stress those things to underclassmen coming up. I tried to be a leader by my attitude. “

One couldn’t find two graduates who better represent Berea College on the court or in the world beyond the College. This fall, Rebecca hopes to teach social studies at the high school level and looks forward some day to applying her basketball experience coaching a high school girls’ team. “I’ve learned so much about the game and what it takes to be a successful

player and team leader. I can personally testify how great basketball can be for young women and how it can create numerous opportunities for them.”

De-An has enrolled in the School of Social Work at the University of Georgia, the next step in preparing for a career as a capital mitigation specialist. “I’m against



Rebecca shoots over Alice Lloyd College guard.

Alice Ladford, '07

received the Roland Wierwille Award, which honors a student athlete whose character reflects discipline, dedication, and determination.

Rebecca is a sociology education major, who excelled academically. She managed to do her student teaching this year during the first half of the basketball season, at Madison Southern High School in Berea. This past spring, she was assistant coach of the track team there as well. Whether getting ready for a big game or a big test, the disciplined and organized May credits “taking things one day at a time and focusing on what was at hand.”



De-An powers past an Asbury College player on her way to the basket.

Rachel Wemore, '10

capital punishment, and that’s what a capital mitigation specialist does – they’re part of the defense team for indigent defendants facing the death penalty. The mitigation specialist is like a social worker, looking into defendant’s histories to try and discover things that might have triggered their behaviors. A lot of our youth just need intervention, someone to step in at the right time when their life could have gone in another direction.”

Playing basketball at Berea where there are no athletic scholarships is a major commitment, and students play for the love of the sport alone. Basketball, Bunky says, should be “the fun part of your day. It’s when you get to take a deep breath, take a break from studies and from work. Basketball’s not your life, but you can use basketball to make your life a little better while you’re here, and with the right perspective, you can learn a lot of important life lessons, too.”

A Report: The Watson Fellowship Year

By Alice Driver, '04

It was by chance that we, three Berea graduates, met in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in January of 2007. Jason Fults, '05, had traveled overland from Hong Kong to Malaysia and my husband, Isaac Bingham, '05, and I were passing through Kuala Lumpur to catch our flight to the South Pacific atoll of Tokelau. Both Jason and Isaac received 2006-07 Watson Fellowships, which fund one year of international study. In August, Jason traveled to India to begin his study of "Perceptions of Science and Nature beyond the West," while Isaac traveled to Vietnam to begin his project, "Savants of the Sea: Boat Building on Two Sides of the Pacific." Over a shared meal in Kuala Lumpur we discussed the Watson year and the influence of Berea College on our lives.

We were surprised to learn how different our first six months had been. Jason had spent the year living in urban areas, such as New Delhi, Beijing, and Hong Kong, while working with local environmental organizations. Meanwhile, Isaac and I had been living with families in rural fishing communities and working with indigenous boat builders in Vietnam, Thailand, and Malaysia.



Supriya Singh

Fults and the head of an Indian village playfully perform 'field studies.' India's Center for Science and Environment realizes that the future of its urban centers is dependent on what happens in its villages.

Isaac wanted to study indigenous boat building under the tutelage of native boat builders and fishermen. He explored not only the origin and evolution of boat building and materials, but also the impact of modern technology on traditional practices.

Jason explained his work as "a combination of independent research and personal interactions" that allowed him "to explore the science-culture symbiosis and discern its implications for addressing modern environmental crises." Jason felt the experiences were preparing him as a future educator, scientist, and activist.

Both Jason and Isaac felt that their independent study projects at Berea College helped them to pursue and further define their passions. Jason spent one summer as an intern with the Australian environmental organization AID/WATCH, while Isaac spent a January short term in Peru working with reed boat builders. Even more influential to the two Watson fellows were their relationships with Berea faculty and staff.

Professors Ralph Thompson and Richard Olson offered Jason "endless intellectual stimulation and empowering hands-on opportunities"; staff members Cheyenne Olson, Jeanne Hibberd, Betty Hibler, and Meta Mendel-Reyes served as



Bingham and Anh Lu, a builder of Vietnamese-woven bamboo coracles, lashed together the gunwale of a boat near Hoi An, Vietnam.

Alice Driver, '04

role models. Isaac honed the ideas for his fellowship with professors Fred de Rosset, Wally Hyleck, and Lisa Kriner.

The Watson year experiences have lead both fellows to ask some searching questions. Isaac asks himself, "Do traditional practices like boat building contain a transcendent value beyond their once crucial survival benefit? Does the influx of material conveniences and technology into indigenous communities devalue daily life and community?" He wonders how these changes affect both individuals and the communities in which they live.

Jason wonders if 2007-08 will become a milestone in human history as we become a predominantly urban species for the first time. Love them or hate them, he says, "it appears inevitable that urban spaces are where humanity will make its (last?) stand. In Asian megalopolises I've witnessed gripping poverty and degradation of the environment at its most extreme, but I've also seen glimmers of hope in the emerging global green cities movement. Which path will our species choose?"

Alumni Connections

With more than 17,000 members around the world, the Berea College Alumni Association represents a diverse yet connected extended community. We encourage all our alums to develop strong ties with friends and to Berea by engaging in our many programs, services, and activities.

17000



Berea is Coming to You!

Berea College Alumni Chapters are all over the country—one is probably meeting near you!

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 1.866.804.0591, or e-mail chris_schill@berea.edu.

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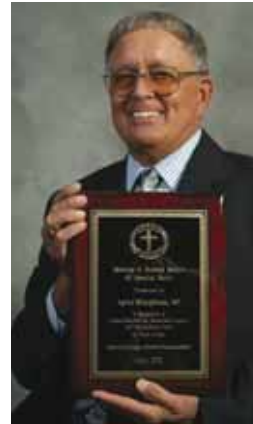
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Loyal and Distinguished Alumni

Lynn Murphree, '67, received the Rod C. Bussey Award of Special Merit. He has a master's degree in student personnel in higher education and was a vocational counselor, junior high teacher, coach, and admissions counselor before joining Berea College 22 years ago. As associate director of Admissions, he covers territories in Tennessee and Virginia and helps recruit for athletic programs. Lynn stays involved in numerous church, civic, and community organizations.



Lynn Murphree



Judy Ann Coats Fray

Judy Ann Coats Fray, '67, received the Alumni Loyalty Award. She worked to establish Berea's first Central Virginia alumni chapter, currently chairs that group, and thrice served as the 1967 class reunion chair. In Virginia she was instrumental in establishing alcohol and drug-free post-prom parties and an award-winning recycling program. Judy Ann remains active in state and regional garden club organizations and has volunteered with the Lutheran Women's Organization and 4-H.



Dr. Kyoko Iitaka



Peter McNeill

Dr. Kyoko Iitaka, '59, received a Distinguished Alumnus Award. She taught at Tokyo's Gakugei and Sophia Universities after obtaining her doctorate in speech pathology. In Japan she helped establish a community center for children and youth. Kyoko organized the Japanese Association for Communication Disorders, served as president of the Japanese Association of Speech, Hearing, and Language, and advocated for professional recognition of the field. Recently retired, she is developing a Japanese version of *Sesame Street*.

Peter "Pete" McNeill, '51, also received the Distinguished Alumnus Award. The World War II veteran was an agricultural teacher in North Carolina and an agriculture extension agent and business manager in Kentucky. Pete served as an agricultural economist for a South Korea project, advisor to the Thailand Ministry of National Development, and was involved with similar work in the Philippines and Indonesia. He retired after serving at Morehead State University's Appalachian Development Center. He now operates his family farm in Fleming County while continuing to work in foreign agriculture and cooperative education development.

photos by Tyler Costello, '08

Summer REUNION 2007



Leah Cushman, '08

"I came a long way from home to come home to Berea," said one alumnus from Seattle at reunion registration.

Even John Fee and Elizabeth Rogers had a happy homecoming. On Friday the torrential rain that was forecasted brushed quickly over the city. A crowd gathered at the new city park on Chestnut Street where a bronze sculpture depicting Fee, Rogers, and Berea's school children was dedicated. Sculptor Stan Watts installed the life-sized figures on Thursday.



Tyler Castells, '08

During the first-ever alumni convocation, President Larry Shinn recounted the College's historical commitment to educating students with great promise, cited the success of its alumni, the College labor program, and the high academic standards of its recent graduates and incoming freshmen. The alumni presented the College with their reunion class gift totaling \$167,486.

Four members of the class of 1937 celebrated their 70th reunion, while 69 alumni from the class of 1957 celebrated their 50th reunion, gathering at the President's Home where Nancy Shinn hosted the traditional reunion breakfast. A total of 357 attended the summer reunion. The Alumni Awards reception honored four outstanding individuals: **Peter McNeill, '51**, **Dr. Kyoko Iitaka, '59**, **Judy Ann Coates Fray, '67** and **Lynn Murphree, '67**.



Tyler Castells, '08



John Harmon, '95



Artwork from two alumni artists was displayed during summer reunion gallery openings. The mixed media paintings of **Kevin Messer, '86**, were displayed at Hutchins Library. The mixed media paintings of **Dr. Harold Robinson Adams, '48**, a gift to Berea College, were exhibited in both Upper and Lower Traylor Galleries.

Robert H. Shipp, '45, signed copies of *Mountain Boys to Admirals: The Berea College Navy V-12 Program in World War II*, which marked the first book about this important chapter in Berea's history.



Tyler Castells, '08



Michelle Towles, '10



Leah Cushman, '08



John Harmon, '95



John Harmon, '95

Summer REUNION 2007



Academy



Knapp Hall



1937



1942



1947



1952



We print photos of summer reunion attendees so that you can see their smiling faces! To see their names log onto: <http://www.berea.edu/alumni/summerreunion/2007/gallery/default.asp>. Click on the class photo to view the names.



Berea College HOMECOMING November 9-12, 2007

“Celebrating the Spirit of Berea”



Date: _____

Name (as you want it to appear on your name tag): _____ Class Year: _____

Guest: _____ Guest's Class Year: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell #: _____ E-mail: _____

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Friday, November 9th
Alumni Awards Reception, 6:00 p.m.
 Meet this year's award recipients at a special reception in Baird Lounge, Alumni Building.

Distinguished Alumnus Award:
 Dr. Donna Dean, '69
 Outstanding Young Alumnus Award:
 Corey Craig, '97

Student-Alumni Speed Networking
Social 8:00 p.m.
 in Boone Tavern

Saturday, November 10th
Berea Spirit 5K Run/Walk, 8:00 a.m.
Homecoming Parade, 11:00 a.m.
 (cancelled if raining)
Homecoming Barbeque on the Quad
 directly following the parade.
 Come out and spend time with your friends and enjoy the food and festivities.
Cheer on the Mountaineers! 5:30 p.m.
 Show your Berea spirit and watch the women's AND men's basketball teams take on University of Virginia - Wise!
Alumni Mixer and Dance, 9:00 p.m.
 in Baird Lounge, Alumni Building.
 Mingle, enjoy appetizers, and dance to the music you enjoyed during your college years.

Sunday, November 11th
Alumni Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
 in Union Church
 with Reverend Curtis Wheeler, '87 and special performances by the Alumni Chapel and Concert Choir directed by Dr. Stephen Bolster.

EVENT REGISTRATION

Number of Tickets Needed

_____ # participants – Berea Spirit 5K Run/Walk (for Contribution to Berea Fund and T-shirt) Cost: \$10.00
 *Please indicate size of T-shirt and #: Small Medium Large X-Large

_____ # tickets needed – Homecoming Barbeque on the Quad. Cost:/person \$7.00

Basketball Games (1 ticket admits you to both men's and women's games):

_____ # of Adults Cost: Adults - \$7.00 each for reserved seating (\$8.00 if purchased on site)

_____ # of Children Cost: Children 5 and under - \$3.00 each for reserved seating (\$4.00 if purchased on site)

Pay by Credit Card

Charge my VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER, or AMERICAN EXPRESS

Contribution to Berea Fund: \$ _____

Ticket Costs: \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Card: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Card Number: _____

Signature of Card holder: _____

Pay by Check

Payable to Berea College

Contribution to Berea Fund: \$ _____

Ticket Costs: \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

For a pre-printed name tag & registration packet, early reservations must be made by **November 2, 2007**. Registration packets will not be mailed, but will be available for pick-up at the Alumni Building beginning November 9. Tickets can also be purchased at the registration desk during Homecoming. Tickets purchased after November 2 are non-refundable. Registration forms must be postmarked by November 2 and sent to: Berea College Alumni Relations, CPO 2203, Berea, KY 40404, or FAX to 859.985.3178, or call 1.866.804.0591. For a complete Homecoming schedule, check back with us on our website: www.berea.edu/alumni, or give us a call at 1.866.804.0591.

About Berea People

1937

Marie M. Runyon is a senior recipient of the 2007 Humanitarian Awards as the founder and director of the Harlem Restoration Project. She resides in New York, NY.

1946

Margaret Iarew Moore, Cx, '46, and Eugene Moore celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on October 19, 2006. They reside in Saint Albans, WV.

1954

Lydia G. Britan retired in 1990 after 35 years of teaching in Kentucky and Virginia. She resides in Charleston, SC with her daughter and son-in-law.

Dr. Milton Jones and Joan, his wife, are enjoying retirement, traveling, and volunteering. They reside in Tyler, TX.

1955

Vista Ashcraft and **Raymond Ashcraft, '56**, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 4, 2006. They reside in Union, KY.

Billy Edd Wheeler was inducted into the Nashville Association of Songwriters International Hall of Fame. He wrote "Jackson," a Grammy award winner recorded by Johnny Cash, and "Coward of the County," a hit for Kenny Rogers. Billy's songs have been recorded by Judy Collins, Bobby Darin, The Kingston Trio, and Neil Young.

1958

Wilma Peercy is actively involved in the Christian Women's Connection which is sponsored by Stonecroft Ministries, a world-wide organization. She and **Bob Peercy, '56**, reside in Buena Park, CA.

1959

Married: Jeannie "Inkie" Peak to Roy Davidson on January 26, 2007. The couple resides in Jensen Beach, FL.

1961

Vance Davis and **Liz Davis, '60**, toured mainland China May 13- June 1, 2006. Vance stayed 11 additional weeks to teach clinical pastoral education to a class of Chinese students in Alice Ho Ming Nethersole Hospital in Tai Po, New Territories of Hong Kong. They live in Mountain Home, TN.

1962

Pat Wilder Fitchpatrick retired as a middle school science teacher in 2002. She resides in Oak Ridge, TN.

Sylvia Tyree Smith resides in Easley, SC. The Pickens County Board of Disabilities and Special Needs in South

Keep in Touch

The Berea College Office of Alumni Relations enjoys hearing from Bereans from all over the U.S. and the world. The "About Berea People" section of *Berea College Magazine* reports verifiable news that has been sent to our office by the alumni. BCM reports the news you wish to share with your alumni friends and associates. "About Berea People" reports changes in careers, addresses, weddings, retirements, births, and other items of importance to our alumni. Please include your class year and name used while attending Berea. Notes may be edited for style and length. For more information on how to submit class notes and photographs, call 1.866.804.0591, email diana_taylor@bereda.edu, or log on to www.berea.edu/alumni.

Carolina has established a Distinguished Service Award in her name. The award will be presented annually for volunteerism and service to persons with disabilities and their families.

1964

Galvin Sammons and **Waukesha Lowe Sammons** published *Our Family Secrets: A Heritage Cookbook* honoring the women who sustained their families from the Civil War to present day. They reside in Gencoe, AL.

1965

Garry Barker and Danetta, his wife, are majority owners of Barker Publications, LLC, which has published the *Hemingsburg Gazette* since 2006. Danetta is its editor. The couple resides in Hemingsburg, KY.

Sue Giffin has written, ghost written, and edited more than 31 books. Her recent publication, *I Kept My Word: The Personal Promise Between a World War II Army Private and His Captain about What Really Happened to Glenn Miller*, was published in October 2006. Sue lives in Dearborn, MI.

Thelma "Sammie" Wilson Wakefield spent two weeks in March on a mission trip to Peru. She was with the Eleanor's Project which provides wheelchairs and fitted specialized seating systems for children with severe disabilities. Thelma resides in Moultonboro, NH.

1969

Wayne R. Boles is a systems analyst with Teledyne Brown Engineering. He received a master's degree in logistics management from the Air Force Institute of Technology. He resides in Lacey Spring, AL.

Sharon Mailey is the founding director of a new bachelor of science in nursing program at Trinity Washington University. She retired from the USAF reserve as a Brigadier General. Sharon resides in Reston, VA.

Sandra Carter Toussaint published her first book in March. *Up Harold's Branch* is a collection of childhood memories that spans 15 years. Sandra and Gus Toussaint reside in Lexington, KY.

Barry N. Wood has taught high school for 36 years in McMurray, PA. Earlier in the year he directed the musical *Shenandoah*. This past summer he directed and choreographed a new version of the 1925 musical *No, No, Nanette* for the Washington Community Theatre.

1970

Hannah Kern teaches art at the Scott County Public School System. She resides in Kingsport, TN.

1971

Scarlett Breeding is a partner in the firm Alt Breeding Schwarz Architects in Annapolis, MD. She and John Alt, her husband, recently renovated their home in the Annapolis historic district.

Wayne Byrd retired in January as the executive director of the office of field operations after more than 34 years of service with the Kentucky Department of Revenue. He and Linda Byrd reside in Harrodsburg, KY.

1972

Teresa Cole, of Berea, KY, was one of five alumni potters whose work was featured in the "Handbuilt: Kentucky Clay Artisans" exhibition this year in Louisville and Berea, along with the work of Berea College art professor Wally Hyleck.

1974

Donald V. Stewart and his son Wesley both work for the CSX railroad. Donald is an engineer and Wesley is a conductor. **Doris Wilson Stewart, '71**, is a physical education teacher at Mountain View Elementary. They reside in Athens, TN.

1976

Sarah Gilbreth and **Jeff Enge, '86**, her husband, of Berea, KY, were two of five alumni potters whose work has been featured in the "Handbuilt: Kentucky Clay Artisans" exhibition this year in Louisville and Berea, along with the work of Berea College art professor Wally Hyleck.

Fentress C. Horner received a master's degree in Biblical studies from Temple Baptist Seminary in Tennessee. The program prepares men for work in ministry and teaching. Fentress is married to **Kay Bruce Horner, '75**.



Wilma, '58, and Bob Peercy, '56



Vance Davis, '61



Scarlett Breeding, '71



Samantha Irvin Kelley, '00

1982

Jim Ramsay is the director of field ministry for The Mission Society. He and **Shawn Ramsay, Cx '86**, completed 10 years of missionary service in northern Kazakhstan. They reside in Lilburn, GA.

1983

Kelvin McCollum is the principal at Northwest Middle School in Knoxville, TN. He and **Judy McCollum** reside in Lenoir City, TN with their children, Kourtney, Megan, and Ian.

1985

Jeff Peters, Cx '85, is owner of JCP Landscaping. He and Maryanne, his wife of 10 years, reside in Sag Harbor, NY with daughter Isabel, age 8.

1986

Jeff Enge and **Sarah Culbreth, '76**, his wife, of Berea, KY were two of five alumni potters whose work has been featured in the "Handbuilt: Kentucky Clay Artisans" exhibition this year in Louisville and Berea, along with the work of Berea College art professor Wally Hyleck.

1988

Berry Acorn released a new CD of original music. He resides in Springfield, KY.

Vanessa Armstrong is chief deputy clerk with the U.S. District Court of the Western District of Kentucky in Louisville, KY.

1989

Becky Bevins was elected the Clerk of Bell County, Kentucky in November 2006.

1990

Charnel M. Burton competed in the National Trial Competition Sixth Circuit Regionals in Cincinnati, OH in February. She is a second year student at the University of Kentucky College of Law, residing in Lexington, KY.

Merry Thiessen Groft works for the Drug Enforcement Administration in asset forfeiture in southeastern Kentucky. She resides in London, KY with Tara, her daughter.

1991

Amy Elswick, of Louisville, KY and **Phillip Wiggs**, of Paint Lick, KY were two of five alumni potters whose work has been featured in the "Handbuilt: Kentucky Clay Artisans" exhibition this year in Louisville and Berea, along with the work of Berea College art professor Wally Hyleck.

1992

Menelaos Karamichalis rode 106 miles on a bicycle as part of the Tour de Cure fundraiser to support diabetes research and prevention. He is president of the St. Louis region Porsche Club and resides in Manchester, MO.

Manuel San is training to become a geriatrician. He is board-certified in family medicine. Cynthia Chiu San, his wife, is an occupational therapist at the Kansas University Medical Center. They reside in Leawood, KS.

Birth: a son, Zachary Raymond Spires, to **Joseph Spires** and **Cathleen Ferrell Spires, '93**, on September 22, 2006. Joseph is an attorney for the Department of the

Kevin Messer Paintings at Hutchins Library

The artwork of alumnus **Kevin Messer, '86**, made a 'homecoming' to Berea College during a seven-week exhibit of Messer's mixed-media paintings at Hutchins Library. Messer created his large stretched canvas paintings of landscapes and portraits using a variety of traditional and digital media. Messer previously exhibited his work in the College library in 1983. His work focuses on commonplace subjects that might otherwise be overlooked. "By blending a variety of traditional and new media," he writes, "I seek to reveal the extraordinary beauty found in otherwise 'ordinary' scenes." The southeastern Kentucky native has won national and regional art awards. The exhibit opened May 9 and ran through June.



Michelle Towles '10

Treasury and Cathleen is a stay-at-home mom. The couple resides in Bel Air, MD with their three children, including Gabby and Neko.

1993

Andre L. Jones II achieved national board teacher certification in early adolescence mathematics. He teaches in Maryland and resides in Laurel, MD with LaVerne Hawkins Jones, his wife of 10 years, and Lydia, their daughter.

Regina Washington received her doctorate in public health (2001-06) from the University of Kentucky. She was appointed by the Governor of Kentucky as the new division director of prevention and quality improvement for the Kentucky Department of Public Health. Regina was employed at Berea College from 1993-2001.

1994

Debbie Gilbert published *R-U-Mad Journal* through Tate Publishing. The book challenges readers to live the message of Jude 22 for 30 days. She resides in London, KY.

1996

Sandy Ruggiero Gbilisco is the corporate chief/culinary director of Gispers Restaurants in Florida. She resides in Alturndale, FL.

Birth: a daughter, Rachel Anne, to **John Henderson** and Katherine Henderson on March 10, 2006. The family resides in Greensburg, KY.

Judah Lowell, Cx '96, patented a Winnie the Pooh cuckoo clock. He and Cynthia, his wife, reside in Lexington, KY with their children, Gabrielle, Alyssa, and Ean.

1997

Kokming Lee teaches high school mathematics at Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong and lives on campus.

1998

Michaela Miller works in sales for Home Depot Supply. She resides in San Diego, CA.

1999

Marisa Fitzgerald Aull is a family and computer science extension agent in Jessamine County. She and Chad Aull reside in Lexington, KY.

James Smith was ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church, USA in February 2007. He serves two churches in western Ohio and lives in East Liverpool, OH.

2000

Julia Athman and Davin Athman reside in Hamilton, MA with their children, Keenan and Carrie. Davin works for Asplundh Tree Experts Company and Julia stays at home with the children.

Birth: a daughter, Gracie Jaylynn Hoskins, to **Jason Douglas Hoskins** and **Rebecca Black Hoskins, '03**, on November 13, 2006. The family resides in Orion, MI with Lilly Ann, Gracie's big sister.

Samantha Irvin Kelley has a two-year teaching/public relations contract with the Korean government. She also volunteers for GEM, which provides assistance to North Korean refugees. Samantha and Brian, her husband, reside in Seoul, South Korea.

Elizabeth Fay Tinchler Prevette teaches 7th grade. She and Keith Prevette reside in Traphill, NC with Abigail, their young daughter.

2001

Birth: a son, Jack William Morgan, to **Rebekah Calhoun Morgan** and Corey Morgan on October 31, 2006. They have two other children, Natalie and Henry. The family resides in Glasgow, KY.

Married: **Brent Reichenbach** to **Elizabeth Weintraut, '02**, on October 7, 2006. The couple resides in Mticello, KY.

2002

Birth: a daughter, Lila Annabelle Holt, to **Betty Bowling Holt** and Adam Holt on November 19, 2006. They reside in Mount Vernon, KY.

Rosanna "Gail" Mercer Vaughn and Fred Vaughn reside in Berea, KY with their two young children, Fred and Anne.

2003

Trish Gibson is the data service associate for the Greater Cincinnati Health Council. She is in the PhD program in political science at Indiana University at Bloomington. Trish received a multi-year graduate assistantship award. She resides in Covington, KY.

Steven Goodpaster is director of development for DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine in Harrogate, TN. He and **Jennifer Engelby Goodpaster** reside in Knoxville, TN.

Married: Jacob Bradford Wandler to Jennifer Leigh Kincaid, '05, on July 29, 2006. The couple resides in Boone, NC.

Stephen Wiggins, Cx '03, graduated from the University of Kentucky in 2005 with a bachelor's in studio art. He is a disc jockey with WRFL 88.1 FM and has an art exhibit in Lexington and Berea. Stephen resides in Lexington, KY.



Summer Reunion Chairpersons (left to right): Jane Adams Frazier, '72; H.G. Sawyer, '57; Barbara Weaver Sawyer, '57; Juanita Hall Roberts and Bill Roberts, '42; Rose Moore Ramsay and Bill Ramsay, '52; Judy Coates Fray, '67; Juanita Noland Coldiron, '47; Harold Blackburn, '57; Sam Croucher, '62; and Betsy Hancock, Ad'47.

2008 Elizabeth D. Gilbert Fellowship In Library Science

\$ 3,500

This fellowship is awarded in April to a senior or graduate of Berea College intending to pursue graduate study and in preparation of professional librarianship. The fellowship, a memorial to Elizabeth D. Gilbert, College Librarian of Berea from 1944-73, recognizes promise and financially assists graduate study for the profession.

Criteria for the award are:

- Quality of overall academic performance at Berea College
- Quality of performance in the Berea College Labor Program
- Evidence of commitment to librarianship or related professions as a career
- Quality of academic performance in graduate program, if appropriate
- Evidence of financial need

Address inquires to:

Gilbert Fellowship Committee
c/o Director of Library Services
CPO Library
Hutchins Library
Berea, Ky. 40404

Inquires will receive an application form and directions. **Final application must be submitted before February 8, 2008.** For further information contact:

Anne Chase
Director of Library Services
859.985.3266
anne_chase@bereda.edu

2005

Traci Bray is an assistant landscape designer for Hillenmeyer Landscape Services in Lexington, KY. **C.J. Hooper** is an artist and illustrator represented by his own

Nydwyn Green Dragon Studio. The couple resides in Lexington, KY.

Shane Michael Gartner has a young daughter, Teagan. They reside in Casa Grande, AZ.

Toby Wilcher received a 2006 Kentucky Foundation for Women Artist's Enrichment Grant to assist her in writing a play about women in Eastern Kentucky.

2006

Tara Elizabeth Evatt Glenn is married and resides in Lexington, KY.

Rebecca Trembula teaches Spanish at Rockcastle County High School in M. Vernon, KY, where she lives.

College Officers

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Ann Bowling, Darien CT
Robert N. Compton, '60, Oak Ridge TN
Martin A. Coyle, Beaus Point NY
Jan Hunley Crase, Cx'60, Somerset KY
Chella S. David, '61, Rochester MN
Philip D. DeFeo, New Canaan CT
Glenn R. Fuhrman, New York NY
Jim Gray, Lexington KY
William R. Gruver, Eagles Mere PA
Heather Sturt Haaga, Bethany Beach DE
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Brenda Todd Larsen, Kiawah SC
Eugene Y. Lowe, Jr., Evanston IL
Elissa May-Plattner, Camp Springs KY
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Charles Ward Seabury, II, Westlake Village CA
David E. Shelton, '69, Wilkesboro NC
Mark Stitzer, Greenwich CT
Tyler S. Thompson, Crestwood KY
David O. Welch, '55, Ashland KY
Dawneda F. Williams, Wise VA
Drausin F. Wulsin, Cincinnati OH
Robert T. Yahng, '63, Kentfield CA

Honorary Trustees

Alberta Wood Allen, Bethesda MD
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R. Elton White, '65, Sarasota FL

Passages

The "Passages" section of the *Berea College Magazine* honors Bereans who have passed away. If you know of a Berean who has died, please let the Alumni Association know by sending a copy of the obituary to CPO 2203 Berea KY 40403. Or you may email diana_taylor@bereda.edu. Please include the person's class year or connection to Berea, and the date and place of death.

1930s

Lynn D. Gabbard, '31, of Stanton, KY, died October 13, 2006.

Nancy Jane Stephens Wallace, '34, of Prestonsburg, KY, died January 26, 2007. She was a retired public health nurse. She is survived by Dr. Zella Wells, her daughter, and Dr. Gabriel Wallace, her son.

Mary Rominger Arrants, Cx '35, of Chattanooga, TN, died March 7, 2007. She was a retired school teacher.

Roger A. Byron, '35, of Owingsville, KY, died December 8, 2006. He was an attorney and senior counsel for the Kentucky Bar Association. Roger is survived by Penelope "Penny" Byron, his wife.

Frieda Anna Egger Fields, '35, of Jenkins, KY, died March 25, 2007. She had been a registered nurse for 54 years and retired at age 76. She is survived by four children: Felicia Gail Schaffield, Greta Fields, Dr. Karl B. Fields, and Genda Elswick.

Robert E. Angel, Cx '37, of Bremerton, WA, died January 5, 2007. He served in the Navy as a ship fitter and also worked as a ship fitter at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard for 32 years. He is survived by Joyce, his wife.

Robert Henry Hill, '37, of Savannah, GA, died on March 15, 2007. He worked as a research chemist for American Cyanamid until his retirement. He is survived by Dorothy Gilpin Hill, his wife of 68 years.

Genn Boone Broyles, Acad, Cx '39, of Somerset, KY, died December 11, 2006. He was a retired assistant postmaster and a veteran of World War II. He is survived by Irene Pennington Broyles, his wife.

Mayhew Martin Clark, '39, of Easley, SC, died February 3, 2007. He served in both the Marines and Navy during World War II. Matthew is survived by Kenneth Alan Clark, his son, and Margaret Lynn Clark Dowell, his daughter.

1940s

Christine Mullins Whitt, '40, of Pensacola, FL, died January 18, 2007. A retired school teacher, Christine is survived by Richard C. Whitt, her son.

Avin Clark Allison of Charleston, WV died March 1, 2007. He is survived by **Roberta Larew Allison, '42**, his wife.

Joseph Baird Edwards, Jr., '42, of Asheville, NC, died March 28, 2007. He retired from AB Tech as director of personnel after 21 years of service and was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps. He is survived by his sons, Charles Lewis Edwards and Joseph Lee Edwards.

N. Martin Mullar, '42, of Richmond, IN, died February 14, 2007. He was a World War II army veteran. Martin had been a teacher, high school principal, and assistant superintendent. He is survived by Patricia Wheeler, his daughter.

Seymour E. Crumpler, Cx '45, of Naperville, IL, died February 20, 2007. He is survived by Barbara Crumpler, his wife of 54 years.

Atalene Moore Davis, '46, of Beattyville, KY, died March 19, 2007. She taught school for many years and with her husband, owned and operated Ideal Bottle Gas in Beattyville for 30 years. She is survived by Cla Davis, her husband of 60 years.

Betty Williams Stigall, Cx '49, of Lexington, KY, died March 9, 2007. She is survived by Ben C. Stigall, her husband.

Nobuyuke Yokogawa, '49, of Yorba Linda, CA, died December 2006. He is survived by Marie Yokogawa, his wife.

1950s

Doralee McPeters Meadows, '50, of Weaverville, NC, died March 2, 2007. She was a former school teacher and social worker. Doralee is survived by Leo Meadows, her husband of 53 years.

Harlan Clay Banks, '51, of Morehead, KY, died August 30, 2004.

Laura Willoree Young Blankenship, '51, of Asheville, NC, died March 22, 2007. She was a retired school teacher. Laura is survived by William K. Blankenship, Sr., her husband.

Mary Hart Caldwell, '51, of Charlotte, NC, died February 19, 2007. She was a retired school teacher. Mary is survived by Mary Jo Etheridge and Sonia C. Perry, her daughters.

James "Jim" Purman, '51, of Winfield, KS, died March 5, 2007. He was a former rector. Jim is survived by Eugenia King and Rachel Workman, his daughters, and Paul Purman, his son.

Marolyn Olson Dunlap, '52, of Manhattan Beach, CA, died March 6, 2007. She had taught elementary school, spent 23 years in the data management field at TRW Space & Defense, and in retirement served part time as a local tour guide. She is survived by Bonnie Jane Luhrs, her daughter, and Albert Knight Dunlap III, her son.

Virginia Maxine Burr Neff, '52, of Corliss, WV, died April 1, 2007. She was a retired elementary school teacher. Virginia is survived by David Neff, her husband.

Audrey Godby Callahan, '54, of Bethelridge, KY, died June 24, 2005. She is survived by **Hubert Callahan, '53**, her husband of 48 years.

Anna Mattingly Burnell, '55, of Vanceburg, KY, died December 18, 2006. She was a retired school teacher. Anna is survived by Danny Burnell and Dennis Burnell, her sons, and Margaret Burnell, her daughter.

Carole Ferrell Ramey, Cx '56, of Fairborn, OH, died March 29, 2006. She was retired from Wight Patterson Air Force Base as a security specialist. Carole is survived by Cathy Dorsey, Carla Zarecky, and Grista Aldis, her daughters, and Charles A. Ramey, Jr., her son.

Jesse Lee Amburgey, '57, of Millie, KY, died December 22, 2006. He had been an educator, coach, principal, and the director and executive secretary of the Kentucky Community Action Council in Knott County. The "Jesse Lee Amburgey Excellence in Community Action Award" is presented annually in his honor. He is survived by **Betty Smathers Amburgey, Cx '60**, his wife.

Emice Mae Flanery Hall, '57, of Martin, KY, died November 14, 2006. She is survived by Arnold Hall, her husband.

James Dean Murphy, Sr., Cx '57, of Centre, AL, died February 26, 2007. He is survived by Bonnie Jean, his wife.

Tully Larew, '58, of Greenville, WV, died December

24, 2006. He was a retired teacher of vocational agriculture. He is survived by **Wilma Caudill Larew, '58**, his wife.

1960s

Dorothy Powell Wagers, '60, of Berea, KY, died March 31, 2007. She is survived by Bill Wagers and Jim Wagers, her sons.

Harrison K. Walker, '60, of Temple Hills, MD, died March 1, 2006.

Dr. John P. Crawford, Cx '61, of Orange, TX, died October 19, 2006. He was a retired optometrist. He is survived by Nancy Crawford, his wife of 45 years.

Bert Edward Coomer, Cx '66, of Mars Hill, NC, died March 4, 2007. He retired in 1998 from Mission Hospitals. He is survived by **Ellen Harmon Coomer, '62**, his wife of 44½ years.

James Corbett Nunn, Sr., '66, of Jasper, GA, died January 24, 2007. He was a coach and teacher and was involved in scouting for 53 years. He is survived by Sue Nunn, his wife.

Garry Abrams, '69, of South Pasadena, CA, died August 5, 2006. He was an award-winning columnist for the *Los Angeles Daily Journal*. He was awarded the National Media Award for Excellence in Legal Reporting in 1999. Garry is survived by his wife, **Diana Durham Abrams, Ed '68**, and his daughter, Andrea.

Ronald Eugene Richardson, '69, of Waynesboro, VA, died March 18, 2006. He was a retired soil conservationist with the USDA Soil Conservation Service. Ron is survived by Deborah Tomlin Richardson, his wife.

1970s

Ann Runyon Gullett, '70, of Lexington, KY, died April 4, 2007. She had taught art for several years before retiring to be a full-time mom. She is survived by Thomas J. Gullett, her husband of 35 years.

Sam Weddington, Cx '77, of Abingdon, VA, died March 9, 2007. He was a member of the Tennessee State Bar Association. Sam is survived by **Dr. Deborah Lilly Weddington, Cx '77**, his wife.

1990s

Gene Franklin Rhoden, '93, of Greenup, KY, died January 2007.

Yvonne Oday, '98, of Pierre, SD, died October 5, 2006. She is survived by Khalil Ford and Malachi Ford, her sons.

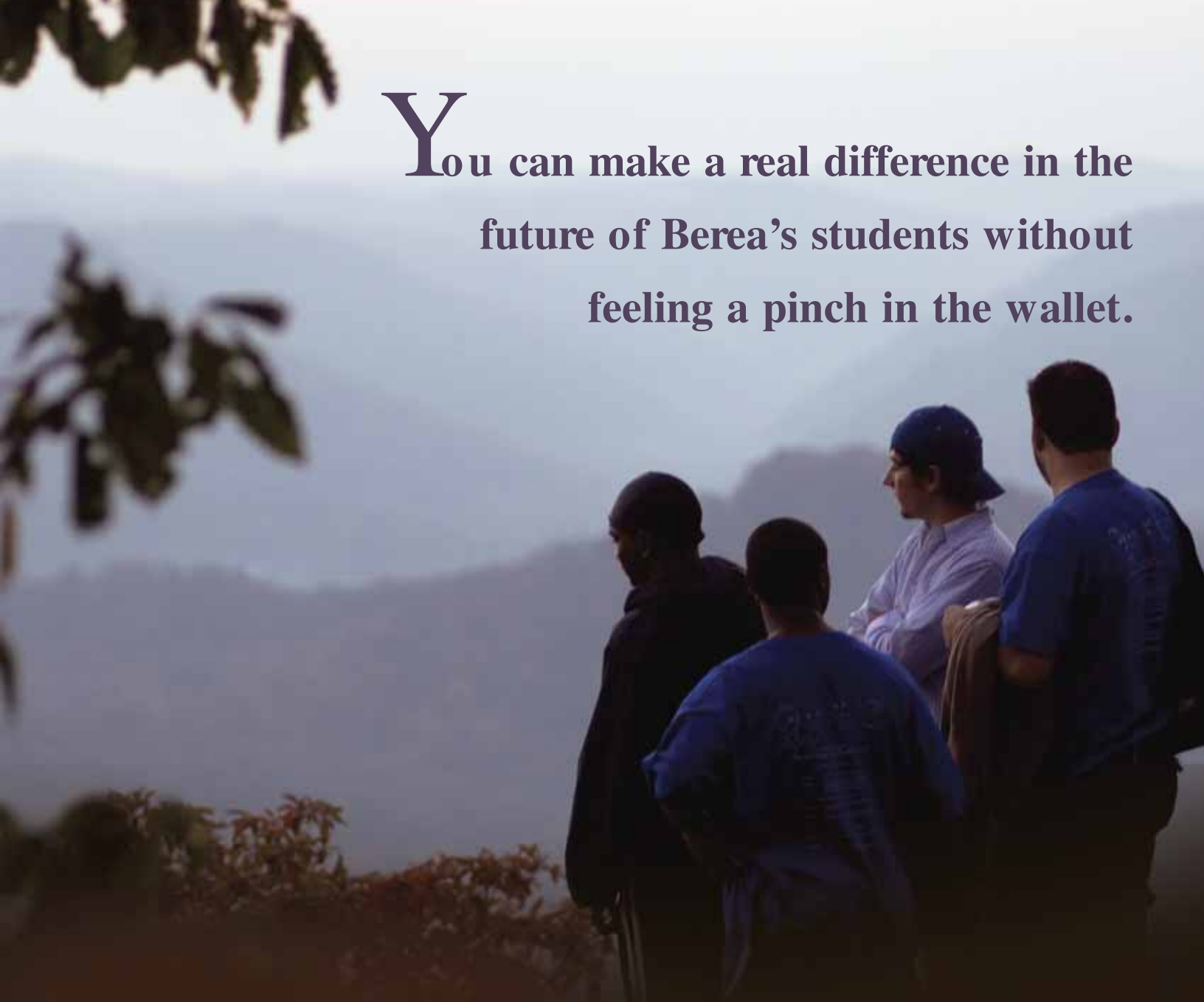
Faculty & Staff

Dr. Ray Betts, of Lexington, KY, died February 2, 2007. He is survived by **Jackie Betts**, his wife, who served as coordinator of the Field Study Program and lecturer in English and education before retirement in 1995.

Ed Croucher, of Mt. Vernon, KY, died on March 21, 2007. He had worked as a plumber and electrician in Facilities Management before his retirement.

Jim Hall, of Fairfax, VA, died February 27, 2007. He retired from the Department of Technology in 1989. He is survived by his daughters, **Betty Jean Hall, Ed '64** and **'68**, and **Jan Smith, '79**.

Fred J. Parrott, of San Diego, CA, died January 17, 2007. He was a retired professor of English in charge of dramatics from 1953-65.



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During their tour of China, the Berea College Concert Choir sang for the community atop the old city wall in the Old City of GuiDe in China's Henan province.