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BARNARD

IN THE NEWS

2019-2020

September 2020

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am pleased to present “Barnard in the News,” a curated selection of our media coverage from the 2019-20 academic year. By cultivating relationships with journalists, lining up media interviews for our experts, preparing our faculty and administrators to speak with members of the press, and assisting with opinion writing and op-ed placement, the Media Relations team ensures that the College’s thought leadership is part of the national conversation.

It has been another busy year for Barnard; the coverage in this report begins with a recap of a discussion between President Sian Leah Beilock and Marilyn Sanders Mobley ’74 about how Black women were excluded from the decades-long fight to win the right to vote for women in the United States, published in *Well + Good*; a PBS special on commencements in the COVID-19 era that featured Christiane Amanpour’s address to Barnard seniors and Bacchantae’s performance of “College on a Hilltop”; coverage of the corpse flower blooming in the Arthur Ross Greenhouse in *AM New York* and *Martha Stewart Living*; and more.

Since taking the helm in July 2017, President Beilock’s cognitive science research and leadership expertise has risen in prominence and become increasingly influential. Her regular column in *Forbes* has tackled a wide range of topics, including the benefits of women-only spaces, how to handle benevolent sexism at work, tips for getting better sleep, and the ways in which female leadership during the pandemic is dismantling the stereotype that men are better suited to take charge. She spoke with Bloomberg about women in politics and wrote an op-ed for *The Los Angeles Times* about voter uncertainty. And as the pandemic forced most working parents to take on the role of teacher, her essay in *The Washington Post* provided insights into how to model resiliency.

From appearances on *PBS NewsHour* and ABC’s *Good Morning America* to regular columns in *The New York Times*, Barnard faculty have continued to shape the national conversation, this year using their research and insights to highlight inequities the virus revealed and help local and national officials develop safe and effective reopening plans. In this report, we feature Prof. Maria Hinojosa ’84’s interview with Edwidge Danticat ’90 about the overlapping coronavirus and racial justice crises on Hinojosa’s NPR program *Latino USA*; Prof. Tovah Klein’s advice to Minnesota Public Radio listeners on how to help children cope with pandemic-related anxiety; and Prof. Alexander Cooley’s *Washington Post* op-ed about the consequences of withdrawing from the World Health Organization; and more.

Over the past academic year, many of our alumnae proudly and publicly discussed how Barnard has influenced their lives and work. This includes an essay from Michelle Maldonado ’91 about the need for social and racial justice reform that ran on Thrive Global; an avalanche of positive reviews for Greta Gerwig ’06’s film *Little Women* and Julia Phillips ’11’s debut novel *Disappearing Earth*; an op-ed about gun violence from Yaffa Fogel ’17 published by CNN — and the list goes on.

Finally, our students made their voices heard and continued to be a source of pride for the College. Lula O’Donnell ’22 published an op-ed in the *New York Daily News* urging Gov. Cuomo to extend financial relief to immigrants who are employed as essential workers during the COVID-19 crisis; Amanda Taylor ’22 was interviewed by *Teen Vogue* about the mental health resource she created for women of color; and Courtney Lyons ’21 and Sofia Perez ’21 gave Refinery29 a video tour of their “penthouse” dorm room in Hewitt Hall.

I hope you enjoy this taste of what is making news here at Barnard. Best wishes for a wonderful fall.

Sincerely,



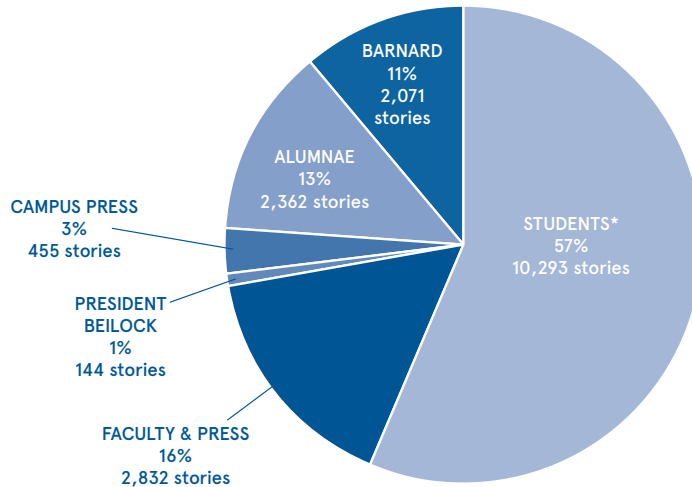
Quenta P. Vettel, APR
Director of Communications and Special Projects

BARNARD
COMMUNICATIONS

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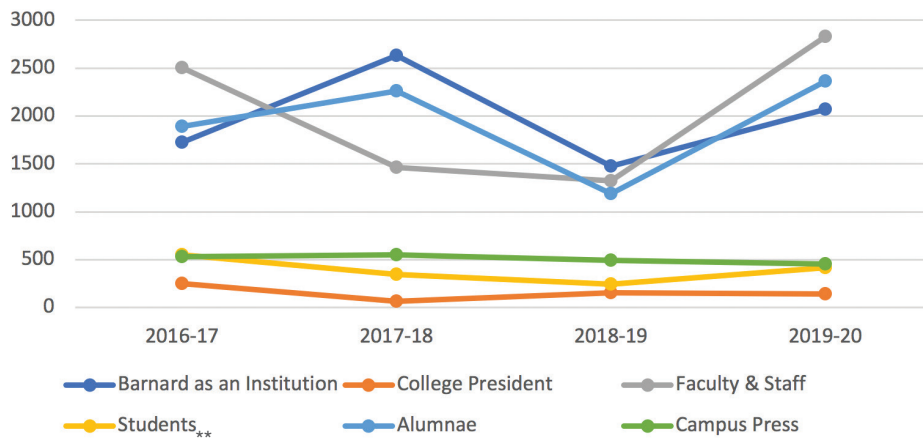
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News Breakdown by Category



*Student stories typically account for about 5% of all media hits. This year's report is anomalous due to the tragic death of Barnard student Tess Majors '23 in December 2019.

Media Coverage Snapshot 2016-2020



**Student statistics for 2019-2020 exclude coverage of Tess Majors '23

For the most up-to-date news about Barnard, please visit barnard.edu/featured-news


Barnard Media Relations Team

Kathryn Gerlach, *Director of Media Relations*

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BARNARD IN THE NEWS

WELL  GOOD

What Does It Mean to Celebrate Women's History Month in 2020?

By **Abbey Stone** | Mar. 8, 2020

It's August 18, 1920; the woman on the balcony is Alice Paul, women's rights activist and chair of the National Women's Party; and the 19th Amendment has just been ratified by Tennessee, the 36th and final state needed to make it federally illegal to deny voting rights on the basis of sex in the United States. The image is joyful, victorious. It's also very white — from the ratification banner's long, crisp, panel to the women's long, crisp, dresses — and the undoubtedly white skin beneath those dresses.

This homogeneity may have been by design. "The suffragists purposefully distributed portraits and other images, visual propaganda, all of white women... so that people at the time would think of suffragists as white," says Allison K. Lange, PhD, an assistant professor of history at the Wentworth Institute of Technology and author of the forthcoming book on the suffrage movement, *Picturing Political Power: Images in the Women's Suffrage Movement*. "That has shaped the way that we think about the suffrage movement."

The women of color who were part of this movement — because there were many

(Sojourner Truth, Ida B. Wells, and Mary Terrell Church are names to remember) — have been erased, quite literally, from history books and, in turn, public understanding. And so, captured in this image of Alice Paul and her banner are both the triumphs and the failures of the woman's suffrage movement.

As we celebrate Women's History Month this March, we feel the weight of the 19th Amendment's centennial and honor all who fought and risked so much to give women a voice in politics. While we look back in this way — clearly seeing the whole picture beyond what's included in the frame — at those who paved the path, we also look forward to November and feel the urgency of an election year. So we ask: How can we improve the way we celebrate ourselves, as a united group of women, and use that renewed, rejuvenated power at the polls to make a future that lifts up all women, not just the privileged few?

[...] "It's okay to celebrate history and criticize it at the same time," **Sian Beilock**, president of Barnard College, said at a recent event hosted by the institution on the topic

of intersectionality and the woman's suffrage movement. "It's so amazing to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment because it's a perfect time to celebrate its legacy. But it's also a perfect time to criticize it, and to understand who was left out of the conversations, largely women of color," Beilock said. "And then you throw in issues around sexuality, non-binary identities, immigration, labor status, and many other identities and it's clear we all have more work to do."

"This anniversary is an opportunity to remember that the suffrage movement was about the right to vote for all women," **Marilyn Sanders Mobley** [ʔ74], PhD, professor of English and African American Studies at Case Western Reserve University said of the Amendment's centennial while lecturing at the aforementioned **Barnard College event**. "And it's an opportunity to remember the history of that same movement for the ways that we can expose how women of color were often excluded from the narrative, even as they were very much a part of the struggle." ■



Pomp Under the Circumstances: A Virtual Commencement

June 12, 2020

With the cancellation of graduation ceremonies and the tradition of the inspirational commencement address, millions of students are being deprived of a rite of passage. “Pomp Under the Circumstances” features excerpts from commencement speeches and messages to the class of 2020 from a variety of public figures offering graduating high school and college students insight, inspiration, and wisdom. ■

Amanpour’s address to graduating seniors:

To the Barnard Class of 2020, all you graduates, I’m just saying a huge and heartfelt congratulations. I know this is different than you imagined, but it is not the end of your future. It’s just the beginning, just like it was for the young generation after World War II. I strongly believe that your generation of graduates will be on the frontlines of reimagining a better and more human, more equitable world, on the other side of this crisis. So don’t be too disappointed now, don’t be too sad. Reflect during this time and hang onto your goals and your dreams.

I just want to tell you a quick story that I really think is emblematic for this moment. It’s the story of the great Ida B. Wells. She was the phenomenal Black American journalist and civil rights activist. She also received her academic and professional recognition somewhat later than expected, like you. Earlier this month, she was awarded a Pulitzer Prize — it came 89 years after her death. Ida was born in Mississippi, but both of her parents died in the 1878 yellow fever epidemic, so at the age of 16, she became head of household, and she had to care and provide for her younger siblings. Sound slightly familiar? Well, this year, the Pulitzer has finally recognized her outstanding and courageous

reporting on the terrible suffering and indignities that were inflicted on the Black community in the South.

Ida B. Wells was a fiercely committed woman. She was passionate, she was compassionate, and she was driven by a powerful mission. She could even be a bit of a troublemaker, but then again, as Congressman John Lewis often says, “To make change, you have to make trouble. Good trouble.” [Wells] wrote, “The only way to right wrongs is to turn the light of truth upon them.” So that’s always been my mantra, and let it be yours. Whatever you do and whenever you do it, you have to go out there and make good trouble. Be passionate, be compassionate, be empathetic. Use this time before you have your real commencement, before you get your jobs, before the world goes — well, I hope not back to square one — but a new normal in which you can flourish and really guide the world, because that’s your generation’s opportunity, and I think your duty.

So to you, the graduating Class of 2020, we will meet again, and I look forward to one day delivering your commencement address in person. Congratulations again, and from me, Christiane Amanpour in London, I’m signing out. ■



Blast from the Past

On Apr. 14, 2020, a high school senior from L.A. tweeted that he hoped Pres. Obama would give a national commencement speech to the isolated and frustrated Class of 2020. The tweet quickly went viral, and subsequent media coverage of the tweet mentioned **Pres. Obama’s 2012 Barnard Commencement speech.** ■

The Washington Post

Forbes meoww

BUSINESS INSIDER

Toni Morrison passed away on Aug. 5, 2019; as tributes poured in from around the world, media coverage of her powerful words included those from her **1979 Barnard Commencement speech:** “The function of freedom is to free someone else.” ■

BUSINESS INSIDER

Chicago Tribune AOL.

The Boston Globe ELLE

THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER





Columbia's Library Building Features the Names of Only Male Authors. After 3 Decades of Trying, These Students Have Fixed That

By Elizabeth Wolfe and Brian Ries | Oct. 7, 2019

Homer. Herodotus. Sophocles. Plato. Aristotle. Demosthenes. Cicero. Vergil. Male. Male. Male. Male. Male. Male. Male. Male. Male. These are the author's names chiseled into the stone facade of Columbia University's Butler Library. In case it hasn't become clear yet, every single one of them is a man. For three decades, students at Columbia have been making bold statements about the lack of inclusivity the inscription communicates — and they've been doing it right on the building itself.

[...] This week, a new banner for the 21st century has been stretched across the face of Butler Library. It won't stay for a day or a couple of minutes, but for the entire fall semester as part of a student-led exhibit supported by Columbia University Libraries. In an op-ed for the Columbia Spectator, representatives of the Butler Banner

Project explained that the names displayed prominently on historic campus buildings are more than just tributes to donors or revered figures. "They are constant yet subtle reminders of the values of their respective institutions," they write. "Every time someone walks past Butler, they see the names of eight white men and internalize that these are the writers and thinkers that Columbia deems deserving of cultural admiration."

The new 140-foot banner emblazons the last names of Toni Morrison, **Diana Chang** [29], **Zora Neale Hurston** [28], **Ntozake Shange** [70], Maya Angelou, Leslie Marmon Silko, Gloria E Anzaldúa and A. Revathi across the face of Butler Library and directly above the original names.

[...] The names featured on today's banner were selected by a small committee of **Columbia and Barnard College students.**

A survey was also sent out to the Columbia College student body. The selected authors offer a glimpse into a world of female identifying authors who have not been traditionally featured in literary canon or school curriculum. Their work delves into the topics of black feminism, motherhood, the alienation of Native Americans, the culture of language, and many more topics.

Sarah Witte, the research collections and services librarian for women & gender studies, was a librarian at Columbia when the first banner was hung in 1989. "I think some people don't realize that they're just looking at men's names on things," Witte told CNN. "So when women's names are there, that really challenges or reminds them or affirms that, yes, women writers' voices are as important." ■



Additional media coverage by:

DAILY NEWS
NYDAILYNEWS.COM

BLVDITY

untapped cities.
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ESSENCE Regal Black Statue Unveiled in Former Capital of the Confederacy + 9 Other Headlines

By Tanya A. Christian | Dec. 18, 2019

Kehinde Wiley's "Rumors of War" has found a permanent home in Richmond, and more news from the Black community.

All Hail the Queen: In 2018 "I Am Queen Mary" became the first public monument to a Black woman in Denmark's history. Now a scaled replica of the striking statue, created in tribute to a nineteenth century rebel queen who revolted against Danish colonial rule on the island of St. Croix, has settled in New York City. In October artists La Vaughn Belle and Jeannette Ehlers, both of whom are of Caribbean ancestry, erected the regal figure at **Barnard College in Manhattan.** ■



UNCOMMON
CARIBBEAN

La Vaughn Belle, St. Croix's Queen of Conscious Art

By Steve Bennett | Mar. 2, 2020

[...] Undoubtedly, though, La Vaughn's most celebrated work is "I Am Queen Mary." The 23-foot tall statue was unveiled in Copenhagen in the spring of 2018. Its subject, Mary Thomas, better known as Queen Mary, was one of the three women who led the 1878 Fireburn. Notably, it is the first public monument to a black woman ever displayed in Denmark.

The seminal piece makes a triumphant statement in support of civil rights, the indomitable strength and leadership of black women, and the steadfast perseverance of Afro-Crucians in overcoming the shackles of Danish colonialism. The original "I Am Queen Mary" statue remains in Copenhagen. A small duplicate, though, is currently on display at **Barnard College.** ■

Barnard College's Corpse Flower Bloomed for the First Time and You Can Watch the Process Unfold

By Kelly Vaughan | June 3, 2020

Even though school may not be in session, the gardeners at the **Arthur Ross Greenhouse at Barnard College in New York City** are still actively working to exercise their green thumb. Recently, a rare and endangered corpse flower (*Amorphophallus titanum*) bloomed in the campus greenhouse after years of being nurtured. The corpse flower, affectionately nicknamed “Berani,” has been growing for seven years on the campus (**Martha’s alma mater!**), but it didn’t start to bloom until April 2020.

“Our brave Barnard ‘Berani’ has chosen to bloom during an unprecedented time of anxiety, sorrow, isolation, and social distancing. Fortunately, we were always

planning to augment in-person experiences with online tools so that Barnard students who are away from campus in summer could enjoy the event,” said **Hilary Callahan, the greenhouse director and Ann Whitney Olin Professor of Biological Sciences.**

The corpse flower, which hails from Sumatra, Indonesia, is notoriously smelly once it blooms. It’s aptly named; some say that it smells, well, like a corpse. But **greenhouse administrator Nick Gershberg** told Mental Floss that it really smells like dead fish, Camembert cheese that has been left out overnight, and the odor of slightly decayed lilies. Are you intrigued yet?

What started as a plant the size of a potato has grown to nearly five feet, rising four to six inches each day as it bloomed. This species is noted for being the tallest unbranched inflorescence. Gershberg confirmed that the flower reached its peak on May 31st, at which point it measured 72 inches tall and 44 inches wide. The flower only stays in full bloom for about 48 hours, then starts to wilt. Experts at the Arthur Ross Greenhouse are currently planning ways to preserve the flower’s petals. After the roots die, Gershberg says that they will replant the tuber, which will begin the re-growth process within three to six months.

You can watch the livestream on YouTube. ■

Additional media coverage by:



MENTAL FLOSS



Medium Keeping Vigil, Being Brave

By Paula J. Lambert | June 4, 2020

How the Barnard College corpse flower kept me going through the police riots following George Floyd’s murder.

First, full transparency: the **director of the Arthur Ross Greenhouse at Barnard College is my cousin, Dr. Hilary Callahan.** [...] Somehow, my peripheral understanding of Hilary’s developing work with *titan arum* — the corpse plant — began to intersect with my work in processing not just Arbery and Taylor’s deaths but also Christian Cooper’s dreadful experience in The Ramble and then on its heels, the murder of George Floyd.

It takes ten years for the corpse plant to bloom, and the blooming process lasts only 24–48 hours. It’s normally an event that attracts a steady stream of camera-toting enthusiasts. Hilary and her **Barnard College** colleagues scrambled to set up a YouTube livestream and Instagram page where the public could tune in to watch it happen. It’s tradition for a newly blooming *titan arum* to be given a name, often through a contest that helps generate public interest, and New Jersey high school student Janice Kim came up with Barnard’s winner: **Berani.** Berani is an Indonesian word that means brave. It

took a minute for that to sink in: Brave. I was, for the first time since self-quarantine, feeling anything but. George Floyd’s murder put me past the brink of what I was able to absorb and process. My psyche, so tuned in to the collective for so long, had hit a wall. We all hit a wall; we came, as a nation, full stop. Why this death, after so many in our nation’s history, after the murder of so many black men and women, after so many school shootings, after so many brown children had been locked in cages, why this murder, this one, made us all stop in our tracks is both mystery and miracle.

[...] I kept vigil with Berani because I was keeping vigil with America. I would not avert my gaze, even for a moment, for anything. I kept vigil with Berani because what else was I going to do to convince myself this was no nightmare, this was real life — and not just my real life now but real life in every moment for black and brown people everywhere, my colleagues, my neighbors, my friends. How was I to turn away now when they never could? [...] ■



U.S. Women’s Colleges Seen as Incubators for Independence

By Esha Sarai | Apr. 16, 2020

[...] Notable women’s colleges, including **Barnard College in New York**, Mount Holyoke College and Smith College in Massachusetts, Agnes Scott College in Georgia, and Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania, have all noted increased applications and enrollment since 2016 and the #MeToo movement, which was created in reaction to sexual harassment and assaults. “After the 2016 election, we

definitely saw an uptick in young women looking for these spaces where women are empowered, and they’re empowered to use their voice,” Marissa Turchi, director of undergraduate admissions at Bryn Mawr College, told VOA. “Years ago, students were selecting Bryn Mawr despite the fact that it was a women’s college. I think more and more now are choosing Bryn Mawr because it’s a women’s college.” ■



Inclusive Higher Ed: Academic Libraries Serving Nontraditional Students

By Lisa Peet | Sep. 19, 2019

Academic libraries are flexing to meet the needs of nontraditional students

As post-recession college enrollment continues to climb, student demographics skew ever further from the “traditional” undergraduate — the 18- to 22-year-old who enrolls immediately after high school or a single gap year, attends class full-time, lives on campus, is funded by parents or guardians, and graduates in four years. Current students are likely to begin their postsecondary education at age 22 or far older. They may be

the first members of their families to attend college. They may be recent immigrants or English-language learners. They may be career changers or veterans. They may be incarcerated. And, as many institutions are discovering, academic libraries are uniquely positioned to meet their needs. [...]

Affordability equals retention. Many of the challenges facing nontraditional students are concrete: time, money, transportation, and

access to materials. Textbook affordability has become a rallying cry at many schools, from Columbia University’s **First-Generation Low-Income Partnership (FLIP)** — a collection of textbooks and course materials that qualifying students at Columbia College and **Barnard College** can check out for a semester — to pushes to develop free or low-cost open educational resources. [...]

Additional media coverage of the Milstein Center by:

COMMERCIAL OBSERVER

american
libraries

SXSW
EDU

them.

How Zines Paved the Way for Asexual Recognition

By Julie Kliegman | Nov. 6, 2019

Asexual creators have used zines to talk about their identity for decades, often in ways that academia can’t and won’t.

Contrary to common belief, asexuality has been a salient sexual identity in America since at least the 1970s, and zines have historically provided a bonding space for a marginalized group often relegated to the fringes of queer circles. [...] “[Zines] were just these spaces to explore and figure things out,” [*Prude* zine editor Lauren Jade] Martin says in a phone interview. “It was a time of exploration and using DIY media in order to also find community.” Though she points out that while the inclusion of asexuality in queer zine culture was intuitive for many people at the time, various labels associated with it — including demisexual, gray asexual, and aromantic — hadn’t yet become widespread.

Ace Zine Archive founder Montoya, who continues to scour **Barnard’s feminist zine library** and other catalogs, says there are likely more than 100 zines — some of them her own — either wholly focused on or containing discussion of the ace umbrella. Zines did not just pave the way for the recognition of asexuality as a distinct sexual identity, but ace zine culture is more vibrant now than ever before. ■

BOOKRIOT

The Importance of Zines

By LH Johnson | Aug. 21, 2019

[...] Zines capture a culture in a way that mainstream, conventional and often exclusionary models of publishing cannot hope to achieve. This paper calls zines ‘underground texts’ and talks about how they represent often hyper-localized stories told by those who are often ‘on the periphery’ of society. For me, zines represent stories being told by people in the way that they want to tell them. [...]

Any good librarian will also be happy for the chance to diversify their collections. As with so much in life, collections are often directed by those who have the privileges to do so. Those who have their needs and requirements centered in everyday society. Those who tick the boxes. I know a ton of brilliant and talented librarians who work to create collections that are representative of all of their customers — not just those who won the privilege lottery. Integrating zines into that process and centralizing them helps that happen. **Barnard’s wonderful zine collection**, for example, collects “zines on feminism and femme identity by people of all genders. The zines are personal and political publications on activism, anarchism, body image, third wave feminism, gender, parenting, queer community, riot grrrl, sexual assault, trans experience, and other topics.” These are the stories that should be told and institutions working to make that happen is a very good thing indeed. ■

Additional media coverage of the College by:



Diverse
ISSUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

NY NEWS
1

INSIDER

Star-Telegram
FORT WORTH

U.S. News & WORLD REPORT

UB University
Business

The Athena Film Festival celebrates women in the entertainment industry and spotlights films that showcase women’s courage, power, and influence.

THE KNOCKTURNAL

Exclusive: Gloria Steinem and Beanie Feldstein Talk Athena Film Festival Awards Ceremony

By Jillian Fabiano | Mar. 4, 2020

The Athena Film Festival kicked off their 10th anniversary celebrations with a bang, at the Athena Film Festival Awards Ceremony on February 26 at Barnard College. This year’s honorees included *Lady Bird* actress Beanie Feldstein, film director Unjoo Moon, and Gamechanger CEO Effie T. Brown with presenters Paul Feig and **Vernā Myers [’82]**.

The Athena Film Festival honors extraordinary women that demonstrate leadership in the film industry. Basically it’s the best kind of awards ceremony, a.k.a. women supporting women. *Cue Beyonce’s “Run the World” * But where did this all begin? No place other than Gloria Steinem’s living room. Yes, you read that right. “It started when Melissa Silverstein, my co-founder, invited me to a party at Gloria Steinem’s house and there were all of these filmmakers who were complaining about the fact that they could make one film but couldn’t get the second film made,” says co-founder Kathryn Kolbert. “So I had just started here at **Barnard** and created the **Athena Center** and we decided to do a film festival. What’s happened has been fabulous.” Okay, but can we just go back to the part where she was casually invited to a party at Gloria Steinem’s house? No? Okay, we’ll move on.

Steinem is also pleased with the success of the festival. “It’s great to see it grow and become more influential and more important and a great place where people get new ideas, see new ideas, and it just multiplies the energy,” says Steinem.

Luckily, I wasn’t the only one freaking out over Steinem’s appearance. “I literally fell over, my knees buckled, I was like, ‘Is that who I think it is?’” says Beanie Feldstein. “She’s literally my inspiration, she’s my everything.” But Steinem wasn’t the only person in attendance leaving Feldstein excited. *Little*

Women producer and good friend, **Greta Gerwig [’06]** made a special appearance to cheer on her bestie, Beanie. Nothing beats successful and supportive BFFs.

Presenter and feminist Paul Feig was back for the awards’ 10th anniversary after being the festival’s first [male] honoree. BTW, if you’re not caught up, it’s 2020 and men can be feminists too. “Men have to step up and become part of the cause because we are all in this together,” says Feig on male feminists. “[The industry] can’t be a boys club. We can’t keep other voices out. What’s so exciting about what we do is that we get to represent voices, and when we do that we should be letting people who are not normally empowered to tell their stories, tell their stories because those stories are really interesting and compelling.” [...]

The Athena Film Festival aims to inspire young children and women alike. “I created this motto when I was younger that ‘They either want the Bean or they don’t want the Bean,’ and that’s sort of my life motto for myself. You just have to be you, people will take it or leave it and sometimes it’s hard, sometimes it’s easier, but I really do believe that every single human being has something to offer and that’s what I always say to young women,” says Feldstein.

Speaking of inspirational words, what could be a better note to end on than a pep talk from Gloria Steinem? That’s right, nothing, so here you go: “Okay, here’s my big advice: do not listen to my advice. Listen to that voice inside you, that is a unique person, and could never have happened before, and can never happen again, and to know what that voice is, because it tells you what you love to do, you forget what time it is when you’re doing it, follow that, and I’m here to help you.” ■

Headline Highlights

Viola Davis’s 2019 Commencement speech is featured in Google’s “Year of Search” trends piece



Grant funding from Northeastern University’s Center for Inclusive Computing to help recruit and retain more women in computer science programs



62% of Barnard’s Class of 2024 identify as women of color



\$1M grant from the Mellon Foundation to support the Public Engagement Initiative



For the second consecutive year, Barnard is noted as the **highest-paying liberal arts college for full professors**



Additional media coverage of the 10th annual Athena Film Festival by:



PRESIDENT BEILOCK IN THE NEWS



THE BUSINESS OF
GIVING

Barnard President on Leading a College Through Uncertain Times

By Denver Frederick | Apr. 19, 2020

DF: Few nonprofit organizations have been hit by the COVID-19 pandemic any more dramatically than colleges and universities. What is the impact of all this on these institutions and how do they move forward with the future so uncertain? There is no better person to discuss this with than **Sian Leah Beilock, president of Barnard College**, who's with us now. Let me begin with communications — over the last month or so, you had to deliver some very difficult news to a wide variety of stakeholders. What is the balance and tone that you've sought?

SLB: Communications are always really important, and even more so in this sort of crisis, and it's difficult because I don't have all the answers. What I've tried to do is be transparent about what we do and don't know, and lay out the most immediate questions that people have on their minds and try to give them some insight into my leadership team's thinking, even if we don't have an actual answer yet. [...]

DF: You mentioned a class you're teaching on the psychology of anxiety — you are a cognitive scientist of great renown, and everyone's really anxious right now. Young people are worried about the health of their grandparents, the financial straits of their parents, the future of their education, and oh, what a job market that some of them will be entering. What advice can you offer?

SLB: Generally, there are a couple things that are important to remember: One is that it's okay to be anxious, you don't have to give yourself more anxiety by worrying about worrying. Part of this is about having a little bit of self-compassion and realizing that this is a hard time, we're grieving in a lot of ways. The second is that there are things we can do to limit anxiety, one of which is routines — anything that you turn to on a daily basis where you can just unplug. There is just so much research showing that that step back can be so important to our ability to focus and wrangle those worries. ■

INVERSE

Study Finds Math Anxiety Can Equal Bad Decision-Making

By Claire Cameron | Nov. 20, 2019

Getting something wrong is never a good feeling. And for people with math anxiety, one wrong answer could spiral into a lifetime of avoided opportunities and limited choices. Anxiety may drive people to avoid difficult math problems, even if the rewards are high, scientists reported this week. They found that this avoidance may hold people back from accessing immediate and long-term benefits, including lucrative careers in the sciences and engineering. Their research was published this week in the journal *Science Advances*.

[...] The finding contradicts a widely-held belief that feeling anxious about math and avoiding math-related problems stems from being bad at math. Research on math anxiety is sparse, old, and often relies on self-reports, which can be biased. Some of the most-commonly cited evidence for the stereotype is almost 30 years old, Rozek says. But while

math anxiety is associated with poorer performance on math tests, it isn't necessarily a sign that you are just bad at math, he says. "If you take two students who are both good at math, in the top ten percentile for math across the world, the math anxious one is going to do worse at math than the one that isn't math anxious," he says.

[...] This anxiety may have a deep, visceral quality. "One idea is that math is often the first place in school where kids are exposed to right and wrong. And that can be scary," **Sian Beilock, the study's lead author and president of Barnard College**, tells *Inverse*. In previous work, Beilock found that when math anxious people just think about doing math problems, the areas of their brain linked to the feeling of physical pain light up — suggesting the anxiety could lead to a physical, as well as emotional, response. ■



Is Stress Good or Bad? It's Actually Both

By Christine Ro | Dec. 13, 2019

[...] Research by **Sian Beilock, a cognitive scientist and the president of Barnard College**, shows that the role of working memory differs depending on the task. For a pressurized intellectual activity like an examination, test-takers are likely to choke if they worry because worrying depletes working memory. Test-takers should try not to deplete their precious working memory by worrying,

and athletes should focus on outcomes (e.g. where the ball should be going) rather than on their bodies.

Beilock also found that how people interpret their bodily responses to stress could change how they perform. When she and her colleagues examined STEM test anxiety among secondary school students, they found that students from higher-income families

were more likely to believe that a little stress is motivating.

Beilock's research suggests that students from lower-income families may score better on such tests if they're encouraged to see their bodily responses — the sweating palms, beating hearts and all the rest — as positive. ■

Bloomberg Barnard College President on Gender Bias and Female Presidential Candidates

By Scarlett Fu | Dec. 13, 2019

SF: What are your thoughts on the unprecedented number of women running for president in 2020? What kind of candidate has an advantage in that kind of environment?

SLB: It's so great to see so many women there, but of course progress doesn't mean parity. I think about the fact that oftentimes women have historically been excluded from Congress, from running for president, even

from the boardroom. We know that when you feel historically excluded, you actually can worry and have anxiety, and we can see that in the brain.

SF: How does a woman's performance change when she is one of several women — whether she's working with them or competing against them — versus being the token woman?

SLB: It helps to have other people around you, but it doesn't mean the spotlight's not on you, and it doesn't mean that women aren't thinking 'Am I good enough to be here?' or worrying about their ability to perform. Understanding that those worries are normal and that there are things we can do to quiet those neural alarm signals is really important. ■

Op-Eds by President Beilock

Los Angeles Times

Upset by the Iowa Caucuses Chaos? It Will Probably Make You a Better Voter

The best we can do with anxiety is put the uncertainty it causes to use [by recognizing and pushing past bias]. We voters can leverage our feelings to reach more reasoned and informed decisions about casting a vote for the most qualified candidate with the best ideas.

The Washington Post

How to Balance Parenting and Teaching in a Pandemic

It goes without saying that this crisis is throwing stress our way from all sides. I feel this stress too. But by understanding that our attitudes as parents matter, we will not only be better teachers to our kids, but also deal with the other myriad challenges we're facing during this crisis. By accepting that there is ultimately a payoff for persevering through challenges, we cannot only empower our kids to work through the challenges of remote learning, but gain a little comfort in knowing that we will come out of this stronger, and more capable than before.

FT FINANCIAL TIMES

Why the "Spotlight Effect" Stops Us Getting Over Setbacks at Work

If you find yourself in an embarrassing moment, you are likely to feel you are the center of (unwanted) attention. But fewer people are paying attention than you think. Simply by being aware that you tend to be more consumed with what you are doing than others are — the spotlight effect — can change how you think in the moment. Recognize that it's a temporary feeling and that most people are not focused on you. It'll make those less-than-perfect moments easier to handle.

Forbes

Women-Only Spaces Provide a Recipe for Success: Here Are the Ingredients

If you think of yourself as the nuanced person that you are, rather than defining yourself by your mistakes, your outlook will improve. Most importantly, you'll be reminded of all that you've accomplished in life, all that you have to offer — and all the ways you can fill your time more enjoyably than dwelling on what you did wrong.

QUARTZ

Why Americans Are Bad at Math

I worry that math anxiety will prevent the next generation from qualifying for the exact jobs that will be in highest demand.... There's a clear need to further investigate the root of this cultural fear of math, because the psychological, physiological, and even financial effects of math anxiety are real and harmful.

Additional media coverage of President Beilock and her research by:

BUSTLE

Psychology Today

WSJ.

HUFFPOST

C-SPAN

EDUCATION WEEK

FAST COMPANY

Inc.

INSIDE HIGHER ED

THRIVE GLOBAL

FUTURITY

THE CHRONICLE of Higher Education

SHAPE

cheddar

Harvard Business Review

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Men's Health



BARNARD FACULTY & STAFF IN THE NEWS

ORIGINAL WORKS

In addition to their research, the classes they teach, and the op-eds and essays they write for publication, Barnard faculty are busy creating stand-alone projects. The following pages feature a selection of the media attention they received for their original works.

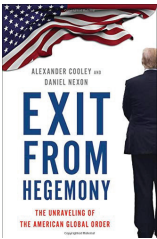

Good Boy: My Life in Seven Dogs, a memoir by **Prof. Jennifer Finney Boylan**



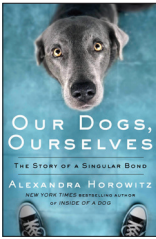


Krishna's Playground: Vrindavan in the 21st Century, a nonfiction book by **Prof. John Stratton Hawley**




Exit from Hegemony: The Unraveling of the American Global Order, a nonfiction book co-written by **Prof. Alexander Cooley**

Our Dogs, Ourselves: The Story of a Singular Bond, a nonfiction book by **Prof. Alexandra Horowitz**

Finding Fellini, a play designed and directed by Movement Lab director **Guy De Lancey**






Testosterone: An Unauthorized Biography, a nonfiction book co-written by **Prof. Rebecca Jordan-Young**




The Dolphin Letters, 1970-1979: Elizabeth Hardwick, Robert Lowell, and Their Circle, a nonfiction book edited by **Prof. Saskia Hamilton**




Testosterone: An Unauthorized Biography, a nonfiction book co-written by **Prof. Rebecca Jordan-Young**

Faculty Respond to COVID-19

As the COVID-19 crisis intensified, Barnard faculty offered their expertise across a broad variety of topics.



In an op-ed, **Prof. Sandra Goldmark** and **Grace Palmer '20** argue that the post-coronavirus economy must shift to a more sustainable, equitable, and circular model.



Prof. Tovah Klein emphasizes the importance of reassuring children that they and their family will most likely be okay, and she suggests balancing that with carefully worded transparency in explaining what the coronavirus is and sharing simple prevention tips.

BUSINESS INSIDER

Prof. Sheri Berman says that Pres. Trump's mixed and frequently incorrect messages regarding the coronavirus have confused citizens and created a breeding ground for partisan divisions and conspiracy theories.



Prof. Rajiv Sethi comments that the Federal Reserve should create personal bank accounts for all citizens to make it easier to distribute relief payments or implement a universal basic income.



Prof. Premilla Nadasen is interviewed about the impact of the pandemic on Black people and vulnerable communities, the need for some kind of a universal basic income, and the impact of the CARES Act stimulus funds.



Prof. Erika Kitzmiller urges faculty members and college administrators to consider the inequities in society at large, as well as specifically in academia, when determining grading policies during the pandemic.

The New York Times

Prof. Elizabeth Ananat and a colleague write an op-ed about their study of service workers that coincided with the advent of COVID-19 and advocate for the passage of the Paycheck Guarantee Act, which would require employers to continue paying employees.

FORTUNE

Prof. Belinda Archibong says that without targeted government policy, women could experience a slower financial recovery from the coronavirus pandemic, thus widening the existing pay gap between men and women.

The Washington Post The Lily

Women in quarantine are changing their beauty routines, which **Prof. Tara Well** says could be a function of seeing their faces more often on Zoom calls.

PLACES

Prof. Kadambari Baxi shares a diary of her day teaching an architecture studio course online, including **Rachel Fischer '20's** Zoom presentation of an annex proposal for the Apollo Theater.



In an article about economic recovery and global power shifts, **Prof. Xiaobo Lü** comments that China and the U.S. have had a long relationship built on economic competition and cooperation, and that is unlikely to change.



Prof. Daniel Hamermesh comments on the recently released federal unemployment report, noting that the quick economic recovery hoped for by the Trump administration is not possible.

ESSENCE

BCRW Researcher-in-Residence Andrea Ritchie discusses the dire healthcare situations in many correctional facilities, which she expects to worsen in the COVID-19 outbreak.



Prof. Homa Zarghamee explains the economic theory and principles behind the Federal Reserve's release of \$2.3 trillion in extra credit to help counteract the pandemic-driven recession.

The New York Times

Prof. Alexandra Horowitz writes about the experience of dogs in quarantine, which for them has improved due to increased time with their owners. For people, pets provide welcome companionship during social distancing.

Forbes

Responding to the abundance of coronavirus-related misinformation on Facebook, **Prof. Rob Brotherton** says that most people believe they are good at recognizing misinformation but don't trust others to do the same.



Prof. Alexander Cooley co-writes an article discussing the possibility that the pandemic may fuel a growing populist backlash against political, economic, and cultural liberalism.

The New York Times

Prof. Jennifer Finney Boylan writes an op-ed reflecting on how life has irrevocably changed since coronavirus hit as well as the importance of caring for yourself during times of crisis.

Additional media coverage:



What Democratic Socialism Means in the U.S.

By Jeremy Hobson and Allison Hagan | Mar. 5, 2020

Self-proclaimed democratic socialist Bernie Sanders is one of three candidates still vying for his party's presidential nomination. When the Vermont senator calls himself a democratic socialist, he refers to Franklin D. Roosevelt's philosophy that the government should take responsibility for the health, well-being and security of American citizens, says **Barnard College political science professor Sheri Berman**. This means democratic socialists in the U.S. support a generous welfare state — which today includes policies like universal health care and free college education, she says.

But when Sanders' critics call him a socialist, they mean something quite different. President Trump and other Republicans often use the word socialism as a slur, conflating it with communism. During Franklin Roosevelt's presidency, socialism was often linked to Soviet Union policies. Now, Berman says the theory is associated with countries like Venezuela and North Korea — where the

government also controls the economy and doesn't allow its citizens political freedom. "For Republicans, both then and now, socialism is something much scarier," she says. "We're talking about two very, very different things but oftentimes using the same term."

Sanders often talks about Scandinavian countries like Denmark as a model of democratic socialism. These countries have long-standing democratic socialist parties and some consider themselves a social democracy, she says. In Europe, the presence of a social democratic party helps citizens better define the term and understand what policies social democrats stand for, but in America, it's less clear. "Because we've never had a party that has called itself social democratic or democratic socialist, the term is much more difficult to pin down."

[...] Europe's democratic socialists grew out of Marxism, she says, as did communism. But after the 19th century, the two ideologies grew in different directions regarding democracy.

Communists didn't believe in democracy, free markets or private property, while social democrats were some of the strongest advocates for democracy in Europe. "Social democrats accepted capitalism," she says, but knew the government needed to protect citizens from its "negative downsides" for this economic system to work.

Today in the U.S., Berman says the support for Sanders and the idea of democratic socialism stems from the 2008 financial crisis and everything that succeeded it — including growing income inequality, declining social mobility and increased geographic divides particularly between young people based on whether they could afford college. Americans who feel "insecure and disaffected" are gravitating toward socialist ideas since most capitalist critiques of the 19th century emerged from socialism, she says. "Critiques of capitalism, not surprisingly, tend to arise at times when significant numbers of people feel the system is not working for them." ■

Additional media coverage of Prof. Berman by:



BUSINESS INSIDER

The New York Times



Made for minds.



The Atlantic



Op-Eds by Prof. Jennifer Finney Boylan

The New York Times

Prof. Jennifer Finney Boylan's op-eds in *The New York Times* touch on both hot political topics of the day as well as aspects of the human condition that unite us all despite our differences.

The Latest Victims of Trump's Cruelty?
Foster Children
(Aug. 7, 2019)

It would be bad enough if the individuals being discriminated against were only the parents who don't fit the Trump administration's definition of family. But what about the [LGBTQ+] children awaiting foster care? Two fates seem to await them. They might get places with foster families who have signed the statement, pledging to raise these queer children in an atmosphere of oppression and denial. Or they might languish in the limbo of institutions until they "age out" of the system and enter the world without ever having had a permanent family.

How I Learned to Fail Better
(Sep. 4, 2019)

Multiple drafts are the writer's equivalent of practice, and the mark of a good writer often is that she takes pleasure from watching the story morph from draft to draft. But it takes patience and time. Sometimes you have to wait a story out, let days, or months, go by, until you begin to see things more clearly.

'Rudolph,' the Queerest Holiday Special
(Dec. 11, 2019)

If you watch the show without understanding that its central conflict is the way people who are different are constantly shunned and humiliated — well, I don't know what show you're watching. It's not "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," I can tell you that, a show in which, at the climax, "even Santa realizes that maybe he was wrong."

Additional media coverage of Prof. Boylan by:



The Washington Post

Trump Threatened to Defund WHO. That Could Leave Another Global Initiative Under China's Influence

By Alexander Cooley and Daniel Nexon | Apr. 14, 2020

International organizations like the WHO are not a sideshow to power politics — they are a crucial arena of struggle. The United States has already experienced costs from backing away from the United Nations, where China and other powers have happily stepped into the void. Now it may be pulling out of the preeminent institution of global health governance, again creating an opening for China.

[...] Just because there is more room for China to influence world politics doesn't mean the sky is falling for the United States. When Washington and Beijing compete, China isn't guaranteed to prevail in even a majority

of influence contests. Indeed, for Beijing, COVID-19 presents both opportunities and risks. Beijing's early failures remain a serious challenge to its global standing and the appeal of Chinese-style authoritarianism, while reports that masks and test kits were of poor quality undermined the public relations benefit of China's overseas medical assistance.

In principle, the United States still has cards to play. It still enjoys a dominant position in the established infrastructure of international order and global governance. When its continued presence makes the institution indispensable for global cooperation, as with the Universal Postal Union, the U.S.

can use leverage to demand more favorable terms from Beijing. But making use of those advantages — and protecting the U.S. power base — means remaining in the game, not outside. Trump has consistently criticized multilateral institutions and has emphasized government-to-government deals that are short-term, zero-sum and transactional.

Trump's announcement that he is cutting U.S. ties with the WHO is therefore just the latest in a series of moves that may leave Washington even more isolated from key instruments of power as other countries, including China, continue to take over existing institutions or construct alternatives in their place. ■

Additional media coverage of Prof. Cooley by:



Time

By Laurie Taylor | Nov. 12, 2019

LT: How is time used in countries other than the U.K.? My next guest is economist **Daniel Hamermesh, who is Distinguished Scholar at Barnard College, Columbia University.** It's sort of an unusual topic, how people spend their time; I introduced you as an economist, and you suggest it's a proper topic for an economist. Why?

DH: I think it's the *quintessential* topic. Economics deals with scarcity, remember? And we still only have 24 hours a day even though our income's about three times that of our grandparents', so time is more and more scarce, relatively, for us, and so we should be thinking about it more.

LT: We're forced to make decisions about how to use that time, about how to buy something with the money we've made.

DH: It's exactly the same as money, except that we think about money very consciously; with time, we sort of fall into it. And one of my hopes is that by getting people used to thinking about time as being scarce, they'll begin to think more about how they spend it, and maybe spend it in ways that make them happier.

LT: Let me play out some of my preconceptions, because I have always assumed that the Germans and the Japanese worked the longest hours, but comparing your [study of] U.S. diaries with those from other countries, such as France, Germany, and the

U.K., you actually found that Americans work more than people from other countries. Tell me a little about that finding and what you attribute it to.

DH: There are two aspects to that: First of all, 40 years ago, that wasn't true — the Japanese were the champions of working long hours. They and the Europeans — Germans and French in particular — cut their hours at work tremendously in the last 40 years, and Americans haven't changed at all. It's not that more of us work, it's not that more of us work longer each week when we're at work; it's just that we have very short vacations and very short paid vacations. That's the real difference between the U.S., which is now the workaholic champion of the rich world. ■

Additional media coverage of Prof. Hamermesh by:





Resistance and Loss in the Age of COVID-19 with Edwidge Danticat

By Maria Hinojosa '84 | June 19, 2020

MH: Back in February of this year, **Edwidge Danticat [’90]** paid a visit to the class I was teaching at **Barnard College**. She shared a message with my students which was all about owning our space and our voice in this country as writers of color and of conscience. Edwidge was the last guest I had in person in my classroom before the pandemic changed our way of life, and her words stuck with me — especially now at a time when the United States is once again facing a reckoning. People all over the world are on the streets, owning their space, owning their voices, and demanding justice. [...] Her latest book is titled *Everything Inside* and it’s a collection of short stories where she explores how people come to terms with death. I wanted to check in with Edwidge and get her insight on the times we’re living through right now.

ED: My parents and I, for the first 12 years of my life, had grown up in a brutal dictatorship, the Duvalier regime in Haiti, so there’s a kind of caution about authority, vigilantes, and mobs, and so you come [to the U.S.] with that fear already. But I remember after Yusef Hawkins died [Brooklyn, 1989] I decided my brothers and I *were going* to the protests. There was a big march in Downtown Brooklyn and they were attempting to cross the bridge to march to City Hall, and I looked over at them doing the march and thought, “Would I be marching for them one day?” The notion that “good immigrants” being exempt from police violence was shattered by the police shootings of people like Amadou Diallo, and then there was the atrocious abuse of Abner Louima. We marched a lot, even my parents, who were not very political people at all, went to one of the protests. It was a very volatile and urgent-seeming time, and there are echoes of the protests then [in today’s protests], but now to see the whole range of people is very encouraging.

ED: There was this really beautiful image that I saw the other day of a protest in New York, of young Haitian and Dominican people marching side-by-side, and that was so heartening to see — all the coalitions that are built. Think of this, Maria: We’ve all been inside our homes for the most part, unless you’re an essential worker, and this pandemic that has killed so many people — if that couldn’t keep people inside, one cannot emphasize the urgency of that enough. Everybody who steps out into the street is saying, “This is so important that I’m risking my health to stand out in the street and protest.”

MH: Recently, you wrote in *The New Yorker* and *The Miami Herald* about “the looming arrival of COVID-19 to Haiti.” You detailed how Haitian immigrants were being deported even after they tested positive for COVID-19, and how the aftermath could be catastrophic. Do you think it came from the United States into Haiti? Are we talking about a different kind of transmission from the advanced modern world to a country that is still rebuilding from the past earthquakes?

ED: I wouldn’t say that it came *from* the United States, but there is one way that the U.S. *is* spreading COVID to Haiti and other parts of Latin America and the Caribbean, and that’s deportation. They’re deporting people who are coming to detention centers where they might have been tested or not, or might have been able to socially distance or not. There have been several deportation flights to Haiti and Guatemala where a large number of people have tested positive for COVID after they were deported. This is cruel and really unconscionable, given that [authorities] know that if some of the richest countries in the world have had trouble with their health systems coping with COVID cases, the countries to which they are deporting people will not be able to handle the spread

of the disease that these deportations are contributing to.

MH: I’m not sure if I’ve ever told this to you, but in some ways I feel these ties to you that bind me in some way, even though we rarely see each other and we’re rarely even in touch, but one of these [ties] is your uncle Joseph, who you write about in your book *Brother, I’m Dying*. He’s the man who basically raised you, and he dies when he is in immigration custody in the Krome Detention Center in Miami, in 2004. This was when detentions and deportations were on the rise, but nobody was talking about it. When I was in that facility many years later for a documentary, I actually met some of the people who worked in the medical unit, who had seen your uncle, and I asked them, “He was crying for help — why did you not help him?” [...] Has your uncle Joseph come to you? Have you been thinking about him in these times of facing these multiple challenges?

ED: Oh, I’ve been thinking about him so much. When my uncle — it’s just staggering to even think about, it’s been so many years, but I see echoes of George Floyd’s screams and his story, because [Joseph] kept asking for his medicine and when he became ill and began vomiting [...] he was told he was faking it. Eventually he was taken to a prison ward in a hospital where he died shackled to a bed at 81 years old. So I testified before Congress about his case along with other families who had also lost loved ones in immigration custody in similar ways. I was watching today a bit of George Floyd’s brother’s testimony [before Congress], and watching his testimony, I realized that he and I were trying to do the same thing — we were trying to humanize our loved ones in a public space because they had been murdered by the state. And that becomes as much activism as the other kind of activism that you end up taking on after you’ve lost a loved one in that terrible way. ■

Additional media coverage of Prof. Hinojosa by:



BE Latina

WIAReport Tracking the Progress of Women in Academia

HYPERALLERGIC

What Ntozake Shange's 'for colored girls' Means in the Age of #MeToo

By Kim F. Hall | Nov. 25, 2019

[...] Last year, my class read *for colored girls* while Professor Christine Blasey Ford testified to her experience of sexual assault at the hands of now confirmed U.S. Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh when both were high school students. Students immediately went to the “latent rapist” poem, drawing connections between the poem’s lament that “women relinquish all personal rights / in the presence of a man / who apparently cd be considered a rapist” and Anita Hill’s 1991 testimony, and the events of that week. One student proclaimed, “*for colored girls* is the #MeToo movement and the #MeToo movement is *for colored girls*.”

While the play famously asks us to “sing a black girl’s song,” Ntozake Shange’s work — like most of that explosion of Black women’s literature of the 1970s — shows that delving into our most personal, embodied experiences can get at emotional truths that speak across culture, time, and race.

[...] *For colored girls*, and now *The Vagina Monologues*, are the two most continually performed works of feminist theater on college campuses. How many white women flock to *The Vagina Monologues*,

but skip *for colored girls* because they think it doesn’t speak to them? Or skip them both because they don’t want to be seen as feminist, activist, or troublesome: choosing to read *Lean In* instead? *For colored girls* told us over forty years ago that the problem is not Black culture, but the cultures we inhabit. Who was listening then?

Of course, white women supported Shange’s early work and many came to see that original production. A Kentucky company has put on an all-white Appalachian version. But how many white viewers watched with the comfortable distance of race? With an unconscious sureness that they were watching the pathologies of Black women and Black culture rather than seeing Black women at the eye of a storm engulfing us all? And *for colored girls* is so much more than a litany of Black women’s suffering. It is an insistence that public naming and seeing ourselves in each other can lead to collective purpose. It reminds us that traumas, once named, need redress and healing. That we need art — and the spaces to create and enjoy art together — when the pain is enuf. ■

The New York Times

Things People Say to Their Dogs

By Alexandra Horowitz | Aug. 2, 2019

We talk to dogs. Happily so, for there is little bleaker than seeing a person texting while dragging a dog by her leash. It’s so natural to talk to dogs that for a long time I wasn’t even aware when I did it. But now I have evidence that I — that we all — talk to our dogs. [...] Sure, much of what we say to dogs is request or command, exclamation points implied: Sit; Come; Go Get Your Ball. Once I began really listening, though, what surprised me was how much is not mere directive.

Heading down a city sidewalk one morning, when sleepy dogs and people stumble out for the dog’s morning micturition, I saw a woman with two small dogs, both in sweaters, one of whom had lifted a rear leg to aim directly onto a scaffolding pole. “You’re going first: *excelente!* Awesome job!” The dog’s owner crooned. I pulled an envelope out of my bag

and scribbled down her words. Thus began my long foray into public eavesdropping on the dog-human dyad.

[...] Most talk I hear is overheard, seemingly not intended for my ears. But when we talk to dogs around others, it serves as a social lubricant, a way to open up the possibility of talking to each other. “What’s your name?” said dog-ward is never answered — except, obligingly, by a dog’s owner. Dogs are not only reflections of us, they are social intermediaries for us. Any hesitation I may have about a person approaching me on the street is deflected by my dog Finnegan’s smiling, wag-filled greeting of them; in response, they talk not to me, but to the dog.

[...] Dogs are, of course, the preoccupation of our minds: we hope for them, care for them, love them. We narrate our thoughts while we

watch them, and their thoughts while they accompany us. One of the things we say to our dogs daily — two-thirds of us, according to one survey of North American pet owners — is *I love you*. Even the simple sound of our voice is an expression of that love, regardless of the content of the words we say. Through talking to them, we let them into an intimacy with us. They hear our secrets, our private thoughts. So now you know: Pass me on the sidewalk, and I may be listening. Please don’t let it stop you from talking. It makes me feel optimistic about humans to hear us talk to other animals. We are at our best in those moments when we extend the circle we’ve drawn around ourselves to include them. ■

Additional media coverage of Prof. Horowitz by:








Child Psychologists on Helping Children Process Pandemics and Crises

By Kate Julian | June 8, 2020

KJ: Tovah, how do you help a family to distinguish between healthy anxiety and more pathological anxiety? I have a six-year-old and a ten-year-old, so maybe we can talk about that age range and a bit younger. When would a parent want to be concerned about a kid's anxiety level, and when would you counsel them not to worry about it?

Tovah Klein: So much of my work with parents is on this issue of when should they worry and when should they not. I'm always talking with parents about how children get anxious often, and we consider it normal depending on where they are developmentally. The way I phrase it is there is "anxiety" with a lowercase "a" — a normal, "how do we support our child through this experience" kind of anxiety — or capital "A," which is more "Oh, I should be worried about this, it's getting in the way of functioning." Some of the differences are, for young children, new experiences can cause children to get aroused, where they get stressed and they need a parent's support to help them through. Younger children often have separation anxiety, so they need somebody really close to them for a while, and gradually pull back, but that's not a bad thing. When we help children through lowercase "a" anxiety, we're helping them experience some stress with support and learn to handle it. When we worry is when the anxiety starts to overtake their ability to function in any normal way for their developmental age. So, for example, for your children, a six-year-old and a ten-year old, if they were to start having a lot of problems socializing, or completely avoid going to school because they were so afraid of the quiz that they were supposed to take, then you start to worry because the anxiety is infringing on their developmental tasks, whatever they should be doing normally and happily. It's a matter of whether the stress can be managed and their parents can help them with it, or if

it's overtaking their life and overtaking the family's life. Then you should be concerned.

KJ: How can we think through coronavirus-related stress as it's showing up in younger kids now? What do they need from us as adults in response to when they're feeling that level of uncertainty and stress?

TK: Right now, everybody's life is kind of turned on its head. For some families, that stress is much more than others, but everybody has experienced this huge shift. Children aren't going to school, parents might be unemployed or working at home, so people can be very much on top of each other. We're not used to spending 24/7 with our parents or with our children. For young children, all of these changes bring up a level of stress because children thrive on routine, predictability, consistency, and that's what we usually give them with school and having routines at home. But all of that has gone away, even if new routines are in place at home, it's still very different. [...] When life is out of control, it makes sense for children to look for control in whatever little ways they can. But we're also hearing about a lot of sleep disruption, nightmares, night awakenings, children who don't want to go to sleep, and clinginess, which are all signs that children are feeling stressed. Young children basically feed off of the emotions, tone, and anxiety of their parents, almost like sponges. In the reverse, it's the parents who help children manage that normal anxiety given the circumstance, but children turn to parents and need them to help them manage it. We are hearing about many behavioral challenges right now, and I see that as children's way of communicating that life feels different, they're not sure what's going on, and at moments it doesn't feel good.

KJ: This is such an interesting point when we try to figure out what it means when we respond to some of these changes in behavior that you're mentioning. If we're looking at this from an anxiety perspective, we're

trying to help our children to cope, to model coping with unpleasant feelings, what does that actually mean for a kid right now who's never had trouble going to sleep by himself but suddenly is really scared at night and wants Mom to lie down with him or come into Mom and Dad's bed? Is that appropriate because this is a difficult time, or do we want to try to maintain the routines and rituals that we had before the crisis?

TK: Like most things with being a parent, it's a combination. On the one hand, the more routines you have, like regular wind down at bedtime, which most people do, a story, maybe a lullaby, going over what you're grateful for, it's good if that can be in place. But at the same time, children may need a little more from the parents. Bedtime might have been easy before, but now, they might need a parent to stay closer for a bit longer, so maybe there's just a few minutes extra at the end. It doesn't mean parents should be staying an extra hour in a room with a child, but children need us to come closer when they're stressed, so extra compassion and kindness can go a long way. At the same time, you still need some limits. Children need sleep, the counter to anxiety and stress, more than anything. That's true for teenagers and adults too. So it's keeping those routines, but understanding that children may need you to be a little more flexible, that they may need you to change things up a bit. So if it's a child who never woke up at night before is coming into your room, you might want to come up with a way to say to them, "When you come in at night, I'm going to always be here for you and I'm going to take you back to bed so you feel comfortable." But the parent should try not to get too stressed about it. They're pulling out their hair understandably, because there are so many new behaviors, but children need parents to exhale a bit and say to themselves, "My child may need me more now, so I will let her sit on my lap in a way she hasn't done in years." ■

Additional media coverage of Prof. Klein by:

The Washington Post

ROMPER

Inc.

THRIVE
GLOBAL

M
MOTHERLY

INSIDER

Chalkbeat

Care.com

Forge

PureWow

sheknows

Mirror

CNN

gothamist

laist

Amsterdam News

TODAY

unicef



Janna Levin on Seeing and Hearing Black Holes

By Steven Strogatz | Mar. 3, 2020

SS: Janna Levin is a professor of physics and astronomy at Barnard College, and she's also a director of sciences at a cultural center in Brooklyn called Pioneer Works [...] We have indication that Einstein didn't even believe one of the predictions of his own theory, that space and time could collapse into this infinitely dense or at least extremely dense thing that we call a black hole that is so compact and so massive that even light cannot escape from it — and not just light, nothing can escape from it, no information, no signal of any kind.

And when I listen to Janna talk about [his theories], they seem to be almost like dear old friends, you know, or pen pals that we've been hearing about them. They've been writing to us from a distance but we never actually got to see them or meet them up close, and now, just in this past year, we have our first photograph of one. You could ask what does that mean, a photograph of a black hole, if it doesn't emit light, but you can see the photograph of the gas swirling around a black hole. So we know that they're real now, but we had good reason to believe in them for a long time.

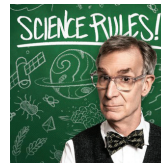
JL: I went out to the National Press Club for the announcement. When the Event Horizon Telescope calls a press conference with the National Science Foundation, you know what they're going to announce. I mean it wasn't a tremendous mystery — although there was one big surprise,

which we'll talk about in a second — but you know that they're going to announce that they've imaged a black hole for the first time. So many people were so surprised when I told them it's the first time. They thought, "Haven't we seen black holes?"

And I try to explain, we've detected indirect evidence for black holes. We've detected pretty direct evidence for the collision of black holes through gravitational waves. It's very direct but it's not an image. This is the first time we've literally taken a picture where we've resolved the shadow that the black hole casts on a bright background.

So I went out there, and when it was revealed, it's very moving, not because the image was a surprise. It was exactly what we anticipated. It was really sort of this feeling that this experiment required telescopes around the globe acting as a composite to look at something 55 million light years away. And I felt in that moment of the reveal that, oh, we're like a species. It's a composite of individuals around the globe looking together at something looming over us 55 million light years away. And so I think of the significance of the detection not just of the image of the picture, not just as a scientific accomplishment, but as a human accomplishment, and also collaboratively what it means for hundreds of people, thousands of people internationally from so many countries to work together ceaselessly for this one objective. ■

Additional media coverage of Prof. Levin by:



Reviews by Prof. Alfred Mac Adam

Prof. Alfred Mac Adam published several reviews this year of art exhibitions at New York galleries.

Susan Rothenberg
(Feb. 6, 2020)

To approach the eight paintings and six works on paper, produced between 1990 and 2019, that are currently on view at Sperone Westwater, we might think about Susan Rothenberg's relationship to cave art. Anthropologists rattle on about what cave paintings mean, but we really have no idea why our ancestors decorated caverns. Susan Rothenberg's work, like that of the cave painters, is fundamentally ambiguous, and that may well be the source of its inexplicable allure. She rarely provides a context for her animals, people, or body parts, and she leaves it up to the viewer to invent meaning.

Charles Burchfield: Solitude
(Feb. 6, 2020)

Burchfield in effect replicates the aesthetic of the French Symbolist poets, especially Stéphane Mallarmé, whose statement "To name an object is to suppress three quarters of the enjoyment of the poem," certainly jibes with the corner of Burchfield's eye: if naming an object kills it, looking directly at a bewitching scene, even in memory, kills it. Thus, Burchfield's watercolor is not about facts but feelings or feelings reconstructed, or, perhaps, glimpsed with the mind's eye. Something evanescent, not to be viewed directly.

Julian Schnabel: The Patch of Blue the Prisoner Calls the Sky
(Apr. 6, 2020)

The metamorphosis of [Oscar] Wilde's "tent of blue" into Schnabel's "patch of blue" is important because it speaks directly to Schnabel's artistic recycling of found material, both in the sense of ideas and in the sense of real substances incorporated into the work. In Wilde, the line refers to the murderer's lost freedom, but for Schnabel, it becomes a recurring motif: all three paintings include a patch of blue, obfuscated by "drifting clouds" of white. So, the poem is simultaneously present and absent in the paintings.



CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON ARTS, POLITICS, AND CULTURE

Medium **GEN**

The New 2020 Trend: Donating to Candidates You Won't Vote For

By Andrea González-Ramírez | Oct. 28, 2019

Julián Castro has a plea to voters: Help him raise \$800,000 by October 31, or he will be forced to drop out of the Democratic presidential primary. This isn't the first time Castro's campaign has warned the end could be near. (Desperate quarterly fundraising emails are their own political institution by now because they work.) Nevertheless, his plea elicited a rush of small donations — including some from people who say they have no interest in voting for him.

[...] It's no surprise that voters are trying to keep candidates of color — even those who hold little chance of getting the party's nomination — in the primary race, says one political scientist.

"There's a real, detectable trend in the Democratic Party right now for diversity," says **Michael Miller, a professor at Barnard College in New York**. "The three largely acknowledged front-runners in

this race are all white and on the older side of the age spectrum. In supporting these other candidates, voters have listened to that instinct, to preference diversity."

In issuing a more desperate call for donations, Castro has followed in the footsteps of Sen. Cory Booker, who announced in late September that he needed to raise an additional \$1.7 million by the end of the month or otherwise he would need to drop out. Some have criticized this approach as a gimmick, but it's hard to argue with Booker's results: Around 46,000 donors brought in \$2.1 million to his campaign.

"The internet has been a great equalizer," Miller says. "Small donors have become much more important. It's much easier for these campaigns to identify them and raise money." ■

Additional media coverage of Prof. Miller by:



the Juggernaut

The "Murky History" of South Asia

By Michaela Stone Cross | May 5, 2020

If anywhere in the world you overhear a man speaking Punjabi, there's little you can assume. He could be Hindu or Muslim, Christian or Sikh; he could be from Uganda or Birmingham, Australia or Bangladesh. "South Asian" — a term with a not-so-neutral history — exists for exactly this reason, to encompass a people and a subcontinent that cannot be defined by skin color, religion, or race. "Desi" and "brown" have also been used in contemporary contexts to politically group the South Asian community, but these terms also come with baggage. South Asia officially consists of eight countries: India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, and Afghanistan. It is not, as some claim, the former territories of the British Raj — which included contemporary Myanmar

— nor does the term refer to a shared cultural inheritance.

"South Asia" was a bureaucratic construct," said **Anupama Rao, a South Asian Studies historian at Barnard College**. "It was an artificial construct and certainly a geopolitical construct."

[...] Within America, the academic term "South Asia" was transformed from a bureaucratic construct into an immigrant identity, mixing with terms such as "desi" and "brown" to give voice to the experiences of both immigrants and their second-generation children, to bond over culture rather than a nation or national heritage. But even these terms come with their own controversies.

"Weirdly, [South Asia] is a term that's given to you," said Rao. "But what's happened

is that it's been also taken up by scholars, because it allows us to think, to push against contemporary kinds of divides and divisions, geographical divisions, boundaries — which allows us to think more about connected histories and to ask complex questions about the region as a whole."

The term has allowed a community to converge in the public eye, without being falsely lumped into the "Indian" category, especially as the South Asian American diaspora grows in diversity. "There's so many other terms of identification, new ways of creating identities among young people who are coming into the universities, and they're bringing very different kinds of experiences," Rao explained. "It's a very interesting moment and a space that we're in." ■

Additional media coverage of Prof. Rao by:



The New York Times

Why Aren't We All Talking About Breonna Taylor?

By Alisha Haridasani Gupta | June 4, 2020

Last week, **Andrea Ritchie, a researcher at the Barnard Center for Research on Women**, joined thousands of others across the U.S. to take part in a protest demanding justice for George Floyd. She proudly chanted his name outside the Barclays Center in Brooklyn, New York. “But I was shocked that I didn’t hear anyone say Breonna Taylor’s name at any point,” Ritchie said, referring to the Black emergency medical technician in Louisville, Ky., who was killed by the police in March, just weeks before Floyd’s death. Officers burst into Taylor’s apartment while she was asleep during a late night drug investigation using a so-called “no-knock warrant.” Her boyfriend, Kenneth Walker, who has said he was worried someone was breaking into the apartment, shot and wounded an officer. The officers have said that they then returned fire and shot Taylor at least eight times in her own home.

Her mother filed a lawsuit against the Louisville Metro Police Department in late April and people in Louisville started taking to the streets demanding justice in May. None of the officers in her case have been arrested or fired, though the F.B.I. is currently investigating the case. In an effort to resurface Taylor’s story on social media, users started using the hashtag #SayHerName last week. But even that, Ritchie noted, has been turned into #SayHisName.

“All Black lives matter,” she said, adding that this movement should be striving to address police brutality against Black men and women and LGBTQ people, who also face violence by law enforcement. “We’re not trying to compete with Floyd’s story, we’re trying to complete the story,” said Ritchie, who is also the author of *Invisible No More: Police Violence Against Black Women and Women of Color*.

[...] When it comes to interactions with the police, the same racial biases that apply to Black men apply to Black women too, Ritchie said. Black women are more likely than white women to be pulled over in traffic stops, according to data from the Prison Policy Initiative. They are also more likely than white women to be incarcerated and currently make up the largest portion of women in local jails compared with other women of color. Black women also face brutal police violence, which frequently takes the form of sexual assault or harassment at the hands of officers, away from cameras and the public eye, Ritchie said. And, she added, alarmingly, it often occurs when officers are responding to calls for help from domestic violence or sexual assault. ■

Additional media coverage of Ritchie by:

SALON

How to Love Yourself (Without Being a Narcissist)

By Tara Well | Feb. 13, 2020

Many people are aware of the idea that loving others starts with loving ourselves, but it’s still common to worry that banishing self-doubt and rumination is dangerous: That it could turn us all into pompous narcissists. As a psychology professor, let me reassure you: That’s not going to happen. I find that Valentine’s Day, a holiday that revolves around romantic coupledom, is the perfect time to remind anyone who is dealing with depression, loneliness, anxiety, or other mental health issues, that the longest and most important relationship you’ll ever have is with yourself. It’s not shallow or vain to love yourself. And there’s a world of difference between a well-adjusted outlook

and the symptoms of narcissistic personality disorder. Additionally, a mountain of research shows that narcissism and self-esteem have very different developmental pathways and outcomes.

[...] You can stop worrying that you are — or will become — a narcissist: Only about one percent of people meet the criteria for true pathological narcissism. Feelings of inadequacy are much more common. Try holding a mirror up to yourself (literally) if you’re not convinced. It’s an effective way to gain a new perspective.

In my research, I use mirrors to help people deepen self-awareness, explore feelings of vulnerability, and develop self-compassion —

instead of using the mirror for self-admiration or self-criticism, you can use it to understand yourself. Other researchers have begun to use mirrors to help people manage their emotions. One preliminary study suggests that mirrors may be useful in helping chronic anxiety patients learn to calm themselves. There’s also evidence that compassionate self-talk in the mirror really does work. When we are more aware of ourselves, we are less likely to project what’s going on inside of us onto others, and we have more choices of how to respond to our feelings, and less reliance on others for affirmation. ■

Additional media coverage of Prof. Well by:

REFINERY29

Fear and Racial Stereotypes Fuel Police Use of Excessive Force

By Tonya Mosley and Serena McMahon | Oct. 16, 2019

The shooting and death of Atatiana Jefferson at the hands of a police officer in Fort Worth, Texas — mere weeks after Amber Guyger's murder conviction for killing Botham Jean in Dallas — is once again highlighting the role fear and racial stereotypes often play in police officers' decision to use lethal force. **Rajiv Sethi, professor of economics at Barnard College** and co-author of *Shadows of Doubt: Stereotypes, Crime, and the Pursuit of Justice*, says regional distinctions can help us better understand what is fueling excessive force by police.

Since June, Fort Worth police have fatally shot six people. Although Fort Worth isn't at the top of the list of cities with high rates of deadly force, the metro area is "up there," Sethi says. Oftentimes, blame is placed on one "bad apple" in a police department. Sethi says it's much deeper than that. The only justification for lethal force is legitimate fear,

which he says begs the question: "Why is there so much variation across law enforcement agencies in the degree to which people get fearful, the threshold levels of fear at which the trigger is pulled?"

Sethi says the cities with higher incidences of lethal police force aren't necessarily the cities with the greatest racial disparities. "The picture is more complicated than commonly perceived because the states with the highest incidents of lethal force are states [...] which have below national average African American populations. But the racial disparities in victimization are not as great as in the Northeast. And then in the Northeast, you have states with relatively low rates of killing, but where the racial disparities are extreme." Chicago is the most extreme, he says, with a ratio of 18 to one Black civilian victimization in police homicides compared to white civilians.

When there's historical distrust among Black communities who have experienced police brutality, building and sustaining police-community relations can be "a painstaking and slow process," Sethi says. Part of addressing the problem can come from reevaluating "generalized enforcement practices" such as stop and frisk, he says. Policies acted on low levels of suspicion to "trap a lot of innocent folks and cause them to despise or distrust police" and can make them unwilling to communicate or cooperate with police.

Additionally, Sethi says it's crucial to stop the use of civilians as "piggy banks." He says after the killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, an investigation found that people were stopped and fined for trivial violations as a source of revenue instead of taxes.

"These kinds of things actually erode police-community relations," he says, "and it's very difficult to build up." ■

Additional media coverage of Prof. Sethi by:



The Three C's of Historical Economic Growth

By Candace Manriquez Wrenn and David Brancaccio | Feb. 6, 2020

For most of human history, the standard of living remained flat, not changing much from year to year, even century to century. Until the Industrial Revolution, that is, when the world population and standards of living skyrocketed. [...] But, as **Professor Homa Zarghamee of Barnard College** told "Marketplace Morning Report" host David Brancaccio, while capitalism might have played a role in the sharp increase in living standards, (as the econ adage goes) correlation is not causation. "Capitalism can be a factor that helps this exponential growth take place, but is it the only factor? Would it have happened in the absence of other institutions that were in place beforehand? We don't know. And in economics, this question of causal inference is a very important one," Zarghamee said.

There were other elements besides capitalism that could have catalyzed the sudden expansion, Zarghamee added. The other C's. There is the idea of culture, specifically the Enlightenment period,

which preceded capitalism, during which there was a focus on scientific method, reason and liberty. The third C is colonial expansion. "Colonial expansion dramatically changes the relative prices of energy — coal — and labor and also provides these huge new markets and sets of resources to draw from," Zarghamee said.

She stressed that in order to tout causation in economics, social scientists must conduct experiments that allow them to have a control group. "If I want to look at the effect of studying on grades, I can look across people and see that people who study more seem to have higher grades," said Zarghamee. "But then I'd like to keep constant certain factors about these people, so I'm not comparing people with different IQs, because it might be that a higher IQ makes you do better on tests and makes you enjoy studying more. But it's not necessarily the studying that's improving the grades." ■

The Washington Post

Prof. Chisa Hidaka '86 says that female anatomy has specific vulnerabilities, and the cultural or social influence of feminine postures like crossed legs could be put women at risk for musculoskeletal problems.



Prof. Hisham Matar is interviewed for his new book, *A Month in Siena*, which details the weeks he spent studying paintings from the thirteenth through fifteenth centuries and dealing with the feelings of grief that followed the publication of his previous book about his father's disappearance.

Women's Health

Prof. María de la Paz Fernández draws on her recent groundbreaking research on circadian rhythms and neuron remodeling, recommending consistent wake-up and bed times in order to boost immunity.

Jazz

Miles Davis has been viewed as one of the most fashionable male musicians of all time; a new book about how his outfits changed his image includes an interview with **Prof. Monica Miller** about Black dandies who used fashion as an ironic gesture and a critique of the status quo.

THE BROOKLYN INK

Prof. Aaron Passell explains the impacts of the housing crisis in communities where developers displace residents in favor of higher-paying professionals, rather than focus on improvements that benefit existing residents.

The New York Times

Choreographer and **Barnard Artist-in-Residence Yvonne Rainer** is staging her piece *Again? What Now?* for the first time in the U.S. with Barnard and Columbia students.



Prof. Maria Hinojosa '84 explains how exclusionary immigration policies conflict with the narrative that the U.S. is a nation that welcomes immigrants, as well as how journalists of color are often sidelined because of a perception of lack of objectivity.



ALJAZEERA

Prof. Belinda Archibong says that, because men typically make more money than women, resource-constrained parents in poorer countries may choose to marry off their young daughters in order to invest more in their sons.

HERMONEY

Provost Linda Bell says that women often take on double workloads when they become parents, perhaps to "'correct' for their impressive jobs and to preserve good relationships with their male partners at home."

PLATFORM

Prof. Anooradha Iyer Siddiqi writes about her experience teaching architecture through an intersectional-feminist approach, drawing on materials from the Barnard Archives and BCRW in order to disrupt staid learning processes and strengthen intellectual independence.

Money

Beyond Barnard senior associate director Christine Valenza Shin '84 urges those considering switching careers to reach out to fellow college alumni who work in the field with strategic questions.



Prof. Lalith Munasinghe and **Kate Gautier '17** write an article on their study of job referrals, in which they found that strong connections between the referrer and the applicant resulted in better hires than weak connections.

THE BROOKLYN RAIL

CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON ARTS, POLITICS, AND CULTURE

Prof. Nico Wheadon reflects on the paradox of freedom as a Black queer woman through a creative analysis of Saidiya Hartman's new book *Wayward Lives, Beautiful Experiments*.

THE CHRONICLE

of Higher Education

BCRW Researcher-in-Residence Mariame Kaba criticizes Harvard's decision to appoint former Michigan governor Rick Snyder to a fellowship at its school of government, asking leadership to confront Snyder's corrupt history and consider the long-lasting effects his teachings will have on future leaders.

The Indian EXPRESS

Prof. Shayoni Mitra writes an op-ed about protest performances in the age of technology and how social media platforms allow for greater potential of awareness.



Beyond Barnard dean Nikki Youngblood Giles writes an op-ed in honor of Black Women's Equal Pay Day (Aug. 22) by offering strategies for negotiating and maximizing one's salary.

The New York Times

Prof. Martin Stute applauds a Kentucky emergency management director's decision to let a Jim Beam warehouse fire run its course in order to avoid the negative environmental repercussions of putting it out and thereby contaminating the water supply.

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

Prof. Rob Brotherton comments that while conspiracy theories are part of a natural human reaction to try and understand confusing times, entertaining these thoughts too seriously could lead to dangerous actions.



The Reacting to the Past curriculum developed by **Prof. Mark Carnes** has created new interest in history classes because it asks students to research historical figures and debate with one another in character on important issues.

Los Angeles Times

Prof. Matthew Lacombe writes that meaningful gun control laws may be within reach in the wake of recent mass shootings, due to strong public support for the movement and the NRA's financial trouble and internal discord.



Prof. Xiaobo Lü is interviewed about the negative impacts that Mao Zedong's "Great Leap Forward" program has had on agricultural production.

DAILY NEWS

NYDAILYNEWS.COM

Prof. Sandra Goldmark writes about her "Things and Stuff" class at Barnard, where students examine garbage collected on campus to learn about the economic assumptions and social norms around consumer culture and our impact on the environment.



Prof. Logan Brenner writes about the miscarriage she experienced during her first year as a professor and the emotional and career struggles that come with struggling with fertility as an academic.

GADFLY

Prof. Francey Russell discusses the intersections of philosophy with modern forms of media — from academic articles to film and other forms of artistic response — and how she views her role as a woman in a male-dominated field.

The New York Times

Dean Natalie Friedman writes an op-ed about her experiences with “fix-it” parents who intervene on behalf of their children. She recommends a different approach that emphasizes self-advocacy and empowers the student to handle the situation on their own.

The Washington Post

Prof. Kimberly Marten explains that the private military organization Wagner Group’s presence in Africa in 2018 has led to “online activities [that] may be inspired by Russia’s success in interfering in U.S. and European elections, rather than jumping-off points for operations elsewhere.”



In an article about the importance of struggle in learning, **Prof. Lisa Son** says that a student who — rather than being told about the errors in an essay — is prompted to look for and find them independently is far less likely to make the same mistake again.



Prof. Michael Wheaton explains that while traveling may cause a temporary boost in mood, it is not sustainable in the long term, as “their same problems are still there” when travelers come home.



Vice President for DEI Ariana González Stokas says that too many elite universities are reluctant to accept transfer students, which could help lower-income students transferring from smaller state or community colleges.



BOSTON'S NPR NEWS STATION

Prof. Eduardo Moncada shares that Mexican cartels have been diversifying their portfolios to include a range of legal economies in addition to drugs as a way to gain resources to compete with neighboring cartels.



MAGAZINE OF THE SOCIETY FOR SCIENCE & THE PUBLIC

Prof. Russell Romeo says that naturally occurring estrogens and testosterone “bathe” adolescents’ brains, slipping past blood-brain barriers and changing the behavior of genes that shape how brains operate.



It is all too common for dance workers across the industry to be asked to work for free. **Prof. Caroline Fermin** recognizes that the narratives of previous generations only perpetuate this unhealthy pattern in dance culture: “We did it, so you should do it.”



With funding from NSF, **Prof. Joshua New** and researchers from Columbia and UNC-Chapel Hill are designing an intelligent headphone system that detects sounds of approaching vehicles and creates audio alerts for pedestrians.



Prof. Elizabeth Cook will lead the Latin America division of NATURA (Nature-based solutions for Urban Resilience in the Anthropocene), a new network that will connect scholars worldwide on issues of climate change resilience.



A NEW READ ON JEWISH LIFE

To mark Yom Kippur, **Prof. Shelly Fredman** recounts her experience with religious fasting and details the ways in which she was able to develop and appreciate her own version of Judaism.

The New York Times

Prof. Mary Beth Keane '99 describes her deep passion for writing despite not growing up with books in her home. She notes that **Prof. Mary Gordon** was a prominent figure in transforming her relationship with reading and writing.



African American Intellectual Historical Society

Prof. Alice Reagan writes about the strategies she has developed as a white professor in order to sensitively teach material written by and about the Black diaspora and their experiences.

THE DAILY SENTINEL

Researchers led by **Prof. Severin Fowles** conducted archaeological explorations of the Rio Grande Gorge north of Taos, N.M., finding early Apache, Ute, and Comanche rock art that indicates a highly developed equestrian and military culture.

The Washington Post

Zine Librarian Jenna Freedman talks about the importance of niche publications, saying that zine writers can have radical viewpoints and often struggle for access to mainstream publishing.



Prof. Christina Heatherton guest-hosts a podcast episode on the crisis of policing in America and the history and reasoning behind current protests.



A PUBLICATION OF THEATRE COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

Prof. Sandra Goldmark comments on the need for theatre set designers to consider sustainability in their process; reducing emissions levels of American productions by 50% could prevent nearly 120,000 metric tons of CO² emissions.

The Washington Post

Prof. James Basker, president of the Gilder Lehrman Institute, says that the institute has made its educational companion to *Hamilton* available for free online during the COVID-19 pandemic in order to help students stay engaged in learning.



Prof. John Miller's latest exhibition at the Metro Pictures gallery, “The Collapse of Neoliberalism,” explores the sense of everyday malaise and life’s petty annoyances through notions of identity, economics, and social class.



BARNARD STUDENTS & ALUMNAE IN THE NEWS



Our Family's Open Letter to Humanity

By **Michelle Maldonado '91** | June 5, 2020

Dear Humanity,

We know you're hurting right now. So are we. After all, we are all connected and we are all in this together. Like many of you, we are a family watching as tensions have reached a crescendo of pain, anger, exhaustion and conflict as well as hope, determination, diligence and action.

With the backdrop of the coronavirus pandemic, the racial ills of society have no place to hide. Exacerbated by the last few months filled with the murders of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and George Floyd, many feel the deep wounding of a nation and the cry of its people. We cannot allow the cry to go unanswered nor can we allow the wounding to go unhealed.

My husband, 16-year-old son, and I have been asked by many over the last few weeks and months, "what can we do?" "what should we do?" While we don't pretend to have the answers, we do know that it is time for wise action, accountability, education and transformation. We decided to do something; to start now. Before I share what that is, let's talk about "The Talk."



Some of you may already know that many black and brown families have "The Talk" with their children — mostly their sons. The Talk is our attempt to help guide them through the perils of encounters with those in the world who will profile them and worse simply because of the color of their skin. It is never a guarantee of safety, but we do our best to prepare them for what potentially awaits. It's time for us all to have "The Talk" and when we're done, it's time to get to work. Time to take individual and collective action for social and racial justice reform. It will not be easy. In fact, it will get harder before it gets easier, but we must persevere nonetheless.

During this next part of our journey together, we may read, see, hear, feel and learn things we don't like. We may feel angry, defensive, attacked and sweepingly lumped together with people who are "not like us." No matter what arises, we encourage you to lean in anyway. Have an open mind, understand your part and your contribution — especially with the really tough stuff. Take responsibility for your own education about the issues, collaborate and coordinate. Use discernment. Have compassion for yourself and others. Act with integrity and intention.

[...] It is our hope that this resource and intention to offer a "good place to start" will help us all come together to co-create the world we both deserve and desire for ourselves and our children; one where there is social and racial justice for all. Our families are waiting. Our communities are waiting. The nation is waiting. The world is waiting. Let's stop waiting and begin. #Be the bridge.


May we all be well and flourish.

With love, care, compassion ... and action,

Michelle, Roberto & Trey Maldonado
A Gen Xer, a Baby Boomer, and a Gen Zer

ORIGINAL WORKS


Many Barnard alumnae are prolific writers, creators, and artists. Below is a selection of the media attention they received for their original works.



Concealed: Memoir of a Jewish-Iranian Daughter Caught Between the Chador and America, a memoir by **Esther Amini '71**

THE NEW YORK JEWISH WEEK FEMALE FIRST


THE TIMES OF ISRAEL JEWISH JOURNAL FOREMOST HILDS / WOOD PARK TIMES JEWISH LINK



Anonymous Is a Woman, a nonfiction book by **Trustee Nina Ansary '89 P'19**

Smithsonian MAGAZINE

ELLE KIRKUS REVIEWS teenVOGUE Los Angeles San Francisco Book Review



UnderScored, a dance theater piece by **Ephrat Asherie '03** that premiered at the Guggenheim Museum

Worldway World.com The New York Times BSN New York Social Diary WAMU NORTHEAST PUBLIC RADIO



Everything Inside, a collection of short stories by **Edwidge Danticat '90**

The New York Times The Journal of Blacks in Higher Education WIAReport THE OPRAH MAGAZINE VANITY FAIR ESSENCE Tampa Bay Times

PW The Boston Globe ELECTRIC LIT LA RB BUST Ms. Buzz Feed marie claire LITERARY HUB



Careful What You Wish For, a suspense novel by **Hallie Ephron '69**

telegram.com THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR KIRKUS REVIEWS TIME PW




Little Women, an award-winning film written and directed by **Greta Gerwig '06**

Honors: 9 Critics' Choice Award nominations (winner, Best Adapted Screenplay), 5 BAFTA nominations, 2 Golden Globe nominations,

6 Academy Award nominations (winner, Best Costume Design), AFI Top Ten Films of the Year

VOGUE Los Angeles Times POPSUGAR OZY VICE The New York Times Indiewire METRO ELLE NEW YORKER DEADLINE The Sydney Morning Herald INDEPENDENT CNN SALON The Atlantic VULTURE TIME Rolling Stone npr BBC



Hitting a Straight Lick with a Crooked Stick, a collection of short stories by **Zora Neale Hurston '28**

VULTURE GLAMOUR Amsterdam News The Philadelphia Inquirer

MENTAL FLOSS WSJ. G-SPAN VOGUE NATIONAL REVIEW PW Paste TIME THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR Buzz Feed FT FINANCIAL TIMES DAILY KOS BUSTLE MM THE MILLIONS EST. 2000 florida today Tampa Bay Times Tribune News Service


ZORA The Seattle Times BOSTON Herald Sisters FROM JAZZ



Donald Trump and His Assault on the Truth, a book co-written by **The Washington Post** fact-checker **Meg Kelly '09**

KIRKUS REVIEWS The New York Times

San Francisco Chronicle The Washington Post THE NEW YORKER PW The Seattle Times CBS



A Journey Towards Self-Definition: African American Artists in the Permanent Collection, an art exhibition at the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art in Tennessee curated by **Heather Nickels '16**

BLACK ART IN AMERICA™ WE ARE MEMPHIS artdaily.org TSD memphis.com



Disappearing Earth, the debut novel of **Julia Phillips '11**

Honors: *New York Times* 10 Best Books of the Year, National Book Award Finalist, National Book Critics Circle Finalist

The Moscow Times npr

Entertainment THE NEW YORKER PW the PARIS REVIEW The Guardian LA RB WSJ.

The New York Times LITERARY HUB The Boston Globe COSMOPOLITAN People

USA TODAY VANITY FAIR VULTURE THE OPRAH MAGAZINE REFINERY29



Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice, an off-Broadway musical featuring **Suzanne Vega '81** as band leader

PLAYBILL Worldway World.com

The New York Times DEADLINE NY NEWS WSJ. BROADWAY.COM The Guardian PIX 11 THE NEW YORKER billboard THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

teenVOGUE

Kalpna Mohanty '18 writes about the pervasive belief that health is indicative of academic skill due to the perception that discipline controls both, and how having a worsening chronic illness forced her to confront the toxicity of wellness culture.

The New York Times

The *Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* costume designer **Donna Zakowska '75** participates in the "How I Spend My Sundays" series, mentioning that her love for poetry stems back to her days at Barnard.

WSJ.

Ava Shapiro '08 and **Alexandra "Sasha" Levine '11** met at a dance marathon at Barnard, and when planning their wedding decided to eschew traditional wedding dresses in favor of clothing they could dance in.

PAPER®

Jody Simms '17 discusses her role in cofounding SISTASPIN — an organization that creates spaces for DJs and parties that are geared towards women of color, femmes, and the LGBTQ+ community — with two other Columbia graduates.

PROPUBLICA

A profile of **Dr. Laura Boylan '83**, who despite being a neuroscientist struggled to convince her doctors to find an accurate diagnosis for her neurological symptoms. She links her experience to the widespread prevalence of medical professionals giving less weight to women patients' concerns.

CNN

In an op-ed, **Yaffa Fogel '17** describes witnessing an attempted massacre at a synagogue in Halle, Germany. She believes the attack was thwarted because Germany's strict gun laws prevented the attacker from accessing reliably effective weapons.

Ms.

Attorney **Caroline Palmer '89** discusses the collective movement to end sexual violence and build on the momentum of the #MeToo

Forbes

Jolyne Caruso-FitzGerald '81 is interviewed about how she built a successful investment company that helped women and millennials build wealth, and why she left it a decade later to join UBS.

VANITY FAIR

Toby Milstein '14 and her brother Larry hosted a Millennial Pink Party in the Hamptons last summer to raise funds for the Human Rights Campaign.

Newsday

Three Long Islander civil rights activists, including **Marge Rogatz '50**, share their thoughts on the deterioration of racial relations today, the new attacks on civil rights, and a new acceptance of bigotry.

HATTIESBURG AMERICAN

Anna Marcum '13, an architectural historian and preservationist raised in the South, pens an op-ed arguing that Confederate statues should be removed rather than recontextualized with signage.

Los Angeles Times

Greta Gerwig '06 visits Concord, Mass., to share some of the historical locations she visited as she developed her script for *Little Women*. In high school, Gerwig — like Jo March — wished she were a man because the writers she idolized were men, but learned about and began revering female writers at Barnard.

Bloomberg

After the sudden firing of Geoffrey Berman, **Audrey Strauss '68** was named chief federal prosecutor for the Southern District of New York. She will lead investigations into white-collar crime as well as politically sensitive cases involving members of Pres. Trump's circle.

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Demme Durrett '19 pioneered the first Human Rights Walk in her area in 2011 as a part of her Scouts Gold Award project. She attended the ninth annual event in December to cheer on participants, commenting on the recent uptick of her peers taking interest in human rights issues.

The New York Times

Stasha Seaton '49 tells her story of becoming a freedom fighter in the National Liberation campaign during WWII, at one point serving as the only woman in her patrol.

Hadassah
Magazine

Chef and cookbook author **Julia Turshen '07** discusses her Jewish heritage, her favorite place to indulge cravings for Jewish food while she was at Barnard, and how she has used her culinary background to respond to the Trump administration.

The Washington Post

In an op-ed, **Emily Reed '19** writes about her experience with the "Seeking Asylum" course, where she and other Barnard students volunteered at a detention center in Texas. Many women and children who arrive at one of these centers are not literate in Spanish or English and are misled or pressured into signing their own deportation orders in an attempt to be reunited with their children.

gamesradar+

A profile of **Mabel Addis-Mergardt '33**, who created *The Sumerian Game* in 1964. The resource management simulation game was unique at the time for its target audience — children — and its focus on narrative, and became one of the most influential video games in history, inspiring *The Oregon Trail* and many others.

Diverse
ISSUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

An interview with **Shuly Rubin Schwartz '74**, who in June 2020 was appointed the eighth chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary. She is the first woman to hold the position.

SCARLETEEN
sex ed for the real world

Zoe Mendelson '12 gives an interview about Pussypedia, her community-sourced, inclusive, and bilingual project that aims to serve as a resource for sexual health information.

The New York Times

Ouroboros Gs, a new work by choreographer **Madeline Hollander '08**, brings attention to the Whitney Museum's vulnerable location on the Hudson River in an age of climate crisis.

Forbes

Zuhirah Khaldun-Diarra '96, a director at UNICEF, pens an op-ed on how she's educating her children about the Black Lives Matter movement and helping them feel supported as Black individuals.

FAST COMPANY

Céline Chu Gauchey '19, a software engineer at JPMorgan, writes about taking an introductory computer science class while already well on her way to earning degrees in economics and psychology. She took boot camps, sought out opportunities for practical experience, and learned how to pitch the benefits of her liberal arts skills to tech recruiters.

**REFINERY29**

In an article about how hair can help shape identity, **Elana Hershman '18** recalls arriving at Barnard and finally feeling able to come out of the closet and dye her hair pink and purple.

NEW YORK POST

Physicist **Myriam Sarachik '54** received the 2020 Medal for Exceptional Achievement in Research from the American Physical Society, one of the highest honors in the field.

Forbes

Shelley Zalis '83 writes about the advice she wishes she'd received in college, from not focusing too hard on perfection to self-care to seeking out hands-on experience.

Los Angeles Times

Gemma Sahwell '19, who is part of a research team examining radiation on the Marshall Islands, explains that it is vital for scientists to pay close attention to the residual effects that radiation levels have on the ecosystem.

MUSICBUSINESS WORLDWIDE

In an interview for MBW's Inspiring Women series, **Ebonie Smith '07** discusses her approach to music production, the lessons she's learned throughout her career, and why she'd like to do away with the term "urban."



Kyle Lukoff '06, who recently won the American Library Association's Stonewall Award for his children's book about a child who discovers he is transgender, discusses writing the book and his dual career as a librarian and author, mentioning that he wrote his first piece of fiction while in **Prof. Anne Prescott's** class.

WSJ.

Tony- and Emmy-winning dancer/choreographer **Twyla Tharp '63** discusses her experience of growing up as a dancer, choosing to attend Barnard as an art history major, and how she launched her professional career.

AUTHORITY MAGAZINE

Eva Yazhari '06, co-founder and CEO of the nonprofit impact investment fund Beyond Capital, discusses her career in finance, the responsibility of finance companies to do more to advance gender parity, and the work she does to serve impoverished communities in India and East Africa.

VOGUE

Whitney Wei '15 writes about her work with Dutch designer Duran Lantink, recalling an article of clothing she showed him that she had purchased secondhand during her time at Barnard, which helped her feel a sense of belonging with the high-end fashion many Barnard students wore.

N&O

:: magazine

Madeline Singas '88, who in November 2019 won reelection to the role of Nassau County DA, reflects on accomplishments and struggles from her first term as well as her strategy for succeeding in a male-dominated profession.

The Sydney Morning Herald

Fatima Bhutto '04 reflects on her memories of her male family members and other men who have touched her life, including retired Barnard professor Dennis Dalton, who helped her reach "a real political awakening."

The New York Review of Books

Joyce Johnson '55 writes about her abortion in the 1950s and the illegal and dangerous procedure many women had to undergo at that time.

THE BROOKLYN LINK

Rev. Aimée Simpierre '98 is profiled regarding her long struggle to balance her identities as a black, gay, Christian woman, and her current ministry at Potter House, a non-denominational church with a predominantly gay congregation.

Ms.

Bergen Cooper '05, a reproductive health expert who was pregnant at the time of publication, questions why expectant mothers and those on the front lines of the coronavirus pandemic are forced to give up their rights to health and safety.

Bklyner.

A profile of **Lori Bodner '04**, a calculus teacher at Brooklyn Technical High School and one of seven winners of the Fund for the City of New York's 11th Annual Sloan Awards for Excellence in Teaching Science and Mathematics in New York City Public Schools.



Monica E. Ahmad-Yee '05 writes an op-ed about how the Violence Against Women Act, which focuses on relief for domestic abuse survivors, can be useful in imagining a future of transformative justice for immigrant survivors.

Tribune News Service

Skateboarders of all ages and experience levels, including **Alexis Sablone '08**, are preparing for the Olympics after the IOC announced that the sport would debut at the (now-delayed) 2020 Summer Games in Tokyo.

Inside Philanthropy

Who's Funding What, and Why

An interview with the American Journalism Project's new CEO, **Sarabeth Berman '06**, about her organization's mission to apply the principles of venture philanthropy to help outlets achieve a sustainable business model.

teenVOGUE

After volunteering in a Texas detention center as part of **Prof. Nara Milanich's** "Seeking Asylum" course, **Isabella Morales Oliva '20** writes an op-ed about improving abortion access for detained immigrants.

**REFINERY29**

Courtney Lyons '21 and **Sofia Perez '21** give a video tour of their "penthouse" dorm room in Hewitt Hall, sharing details about their decorating philosophies and close friendship.



Tess Eberhardt '22 reveals her struggle with time management during her first year of college and shares the steps she took in order to get back on track.

Tablet

A NEW READ
ON JEWISH LIFE

Alyx Bernstein '23 writes about a new trend of Jewish women who wear headbands in an effort to create a culture of religious head coverings that are not just for men or overly focused on modesty instead of obedience.

The New York Times

Nina Lavezzo-Stecopoulos '24 received the High School Journalism prize from the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights organization for reporting on disciplinary differences between Black and white students at her high school.

WSJ.

Agie Neneh Sissoho '21 discusses the ongoing financial support and peer mentorship she receives from her charter high school. As a first-gen/low-income student of color majoring in neuroscience, she feels this assistance is crucial to her academic success.

Fodor's Travel

Fodor's recommends the Radical Black Women of Harlem Walking Tour, co-created by **BCRW Researcher-in-Residence Mariame Kaba** and **Asha Futterman '21**.



Maya Weiss '21 writes about her experience as a New York Public Library education intern teaching dance, saying that the goal of dance education is "to create a generation of people who appreciate dance."

BROOKLYN RAIL

CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON ARTS, POLITICS, AND CULTURE

Maya Weiss '21 reviews *The Master and Form*, a ballet that aims to "use BDSM to question the 'hidden hierarchy' of ballet." Weiss questions this goal, noting that sexual power dynamics in ballet are no longer "hidden" after several prominent sexual misconduct scandals.

TheStreet.

Sabrina McFarland '23 was named the 2019 National Youth of the Year by the Boys & Girls Club of America; she received a \$100,000 scholarship and was welcomed to the award ceremony in Washington, D.C., by Rep. Nancy Pelosi.

teenVOGUE

Amanda Taylor '22 is interviewed about founding The Unplug Collective, which provides a platform for Black women to connect and provides resources such as free therapy.



CITY ATLAS

Isadora Nogueira '20's essay about the contradiction between Chile's economic growth policies and its efforts to combat climate change is called "prescient" after the ideological conflict mutated in October into protests and a declared state of emergency.

**new >>
voices**

Talya Wintman '20 argues that conservative legislation targeting pro-Palestinian activism is actually harmful to Jews because it could curtail civil liberties, diminish the quality and rigor of their education, and justify a military occupation

**CORONAVIRUS
COVERAGE****DAILY NEWS**

NYDAILYNEWS.COM

In honor of May Day, **Lula O'Donnell '22** calls on Gov. Andrew Cuomo in an op-ed to commit statewide relief to undocumented residents who make up a significant portion of New York's essential workforce.



Megan Simmons '21 comments on the difficulties of coming home from college early and expresses relief for digital technologies that allow her to keep in contact with friends.

The Washington Post

Jodi Lessner '20 discusses the small moments at Barnard that she took for granted and mourns the loss of her final months and seminal moments of college.

Newsday

Geena Garcia '22 writes an op-ed arguing that in the context of a pandemic, anti-immigrant policies and rhetoric that deter people from seeking treatment are detrimental to the effort to contain the virus.



NBC intern **Isabela Espadas Barros Leal '20** writes about her experience with the disruptions to her final semester of college, as well as the community she is building with her classmates online.

**BUSINESS
INSIDER**

Isabelle Robinson '22, a survivor of the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, writes about how students suffer academically when governments and school administrations fail to lead compassionately and with respect to students' trauma.



Samantha Ortega '22 pens an op-ed about the parallels between the COVID-19 pandemic and the 1917 typhus outbreak in Texas and how immigrants have been mistreated during health crises throughout history.