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Mule Mob

Bleeding Colby Blue, or at least wearing it, members of the Mule Mob cheer on the Mules at the home football opener against Trinity, Sept. 24.
Photo by Andrew Beauchesne '14

Through the Mist

This photo was taken at 6:30 a.m. with the sun barely diffusing the morning haze. Reported the photographer, "Such glorious light!"

Photo by Dhokela Yzeiraj '13





A Touch of Glass

Set on a campus where bricks dominate the built environment, the all-glass façade of the Alfond-Lunder Family Pavilion (rendering above) is likely to grab attention—as did the collection of art that precipitated its conception.

When Peter '56, D.F.A. '98, and Paula Lunder, D.F.A. '98, promised to Colby their art collection of more than 500 works, the news media and art aficionados took notice. “By all accounts, the Lunder donation launches Colby into the highest echelon of college museums,” wrote the *Boston Globe*. In 2013, as drivers pass by the glass pavilion on Mayflower

Hill Drive they will see a structure that reflects the modernity of the museum and its growth in the 21st century.

Construction of the Alfond-Lunder Family Pavilion began in October. The 26,000-square-foot addition will include 10,000 square feet of new exhibition space, making Colby’s the largest art museum in Maine. The addition is named in recognition of a gift from the Harold Alfond Foundation and the partnership and friendship between Harold Alfond and Peter Lunder. It celebrates the deep commitment of the Alfond and Lunder families to Colby and the state of Maine, and

it reflects the Lunders’ desire that their collection be available to Maine people.

Designed by Los Angeles-based Frederick Fisher and Partners, the \$15-million structure will include a sculpture terrace and a classroom for museum education and outreach. Art Department studios will occupy the top floor of the addition, which is anticipated to achieve LEED Silver certification. The new space will open during Colby’s bicentennial year, and the opening exhibition in July 2013 will present works from the Lunder Collection.

The main entrance to the museum will continue to be through the Schupf Courtyard, where Richard Serra’s sculpture *4-5-6* is on view. A secondary entrance will be available from Mayflower Hill Drive via a stairway to the sculpture terrace.

On view beginning Nov. 8 and during construction will be an exhibition dedicated to the pavilion’s design, rotating highlights from the permanent collection, and works from the Alex Katz Collection. Starting Nov. 8 visitors will enter through a temporary entrance adjacent to the Paul J. Schupf Wing for the Works of Alex Katz. —*Ruth Jacobs*



PHOTO BY TANNERY HILL STUDIO

Architect Frederick Fisher addresses the crowd at the museum groundbreaking Oct. 21.

Witness to History

Despite curling up under her protective vest to survive a Taliban ambush in Marjah, Afghanistan, and spending six hours awaiting her own execution after being convicted of being an American spy in Najaf, Iraq, NPR Foreign Correspondent Soraya Sarhaddi Nelson concluded, “It’s been worth it, both for myself and those informed by my work.” That’s what she told an attentive audience in Lorimer Chapel Oct. 16 when she gave the 2011 Elijah Parish Lovejoy Convocation address.

Honored as Colby’s 59th Lovejoy Award recipient for her courageous reporting, and receiving an honorary doctor of laws degree, Nelson spoke of her reporting on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Arab Spring uprisings, and subsequent developments in the Middle East.

She described wearing a burka when necessary, both to defer to local customs and for a measure of anonymity as she traveled to report stories she couldn’t have gotten dressed as a West-

“I mean, how would the FBI react if an Egyptian reporter was discovered in the bowels of their headquarters in downtown D.C. and recording people who are breaking into top-secret files?”

Soraya Sarhaddi Nelson on accompanying Egyptian protesters ransacking state security headquarters

erner. “You can barely see a thing,” she said. “And forget about peripheral vision. I felt like a baby learning to walk when I wore that thing. Many of my Afghan staff would crack a smile whenever they saw me struggling to put the garment on or wobbling around in it.”

In Saudi Arabia she donned an abaya and a niqab, which left only her eyes showing, so she could record women arguing “fe-



After attending the Lovejoy Convocation, this year’s Lovejoy Award recipient, NPR Foreign Correspondent Soraya Sarhaddi Nelson, spent two additional days on campus visiting classes.

rociously” with male officials while trying to register to vote. While the women were not successful, “Their courage took my breath away,” Nelson said.

Nelson told of accompanying Egyptian protesters to state security headquarters after the fall of President Mubarak: “In hindsight, it was probably not the brightest move for me to be there,” she said. “I mean, how would the FBI react if an Egyptian reporter was discovered in the bowels of their headquarters in downtown D.C. and recording people who are breaking into top-secret files?”

She recounted being disabled by tear gas and having to flee protests in Egypt. She told of being on patrol with Marines last year as “one of the Marines I’d gotten to know took a bullet to the head less than fifty feet from where I was curled up in the dirt. He was twenty-three and left behind a pregnant wife.”

All of which led her to address the questions, “Why in the world do we do this job? And is it worth it?”

“I became a foreign correspondent because I wanted to connect Americans to the rest of the world through compelling storytelling,” she said. “And, yes, to me it’s worth it, even if it means a few premature gray hairs for my husband.”

Complete audio of the 2011 Lovejoy Convocation and a transcript of Nelson’s speech are online at colby.edu/lovejoy.

—Stephen B. Collins ’74

Colby Renews “No-Loan” Commitment

Against the backdrop of record levels of student loan debt—expected to exceed \$1 trillion in the United States this year—the trustees of Colby College recently reaffirmed their commitment to replacing student loans with grants. The program makes it possible for students with financial need to graduate debt-free and directly addresses concern about the effect of student debt on the economy—concern

that in October led President Obama to announce executive actions to reduce student loan payments.

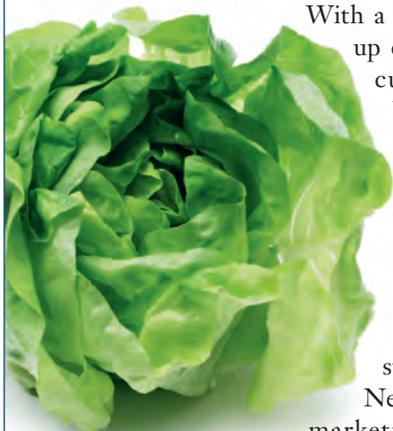
In early 2008 Colby announced it would replace loans with grants in students’ financial aid packages. A number of colleges made similar pledges around the same time. The stock market plunge later that year caused many institutions to rethink, and in some cases quietly eliminate,

so-called “no-loan” policies.

Colby’s commitment stands.

“It’s principally about access and affordability,” Colby President William D. Adams said of the initiative. “As comprehensive fees rise, we need to do more to make sure that no qualified student is denied a Colby education because of concerns about paying off student loans.” —R.J.

Fresh Idea



With a prize-winning idea and start-up cash, Danny Garin '13, Marcus Josefsson '13, and Noah VanValkenburg '13, the team behind My Fresh Maine, LCC, have shown that they can grow a thriving business.

The trio started My Fresh Maine last year as an online business that links Maine farmers and artisans with consumers across New England and New York. By providing online marketing, their company handles small-business logistics so that the only responsibility for vendors is to package products and send them to the customer, they say. And so far, that model has worked.

"It's definitely picked up a lot [since we began]," said Josefsson, "especially since we've been able to prove that we can generate sales."

The company recently offered a successful Groupon in Portland, Maine, that sold more than 220 separate products, and it plans to offer more online deals to strengthen its customer base. "It's pretty thrilling," Josefsson said. "At this point we're getting calls from people who are really interested in us—we're actually taking in revenues."

The business started at the Colby Entrepreneurial Alliance's first-ever business competition in April. Out of nine business pitches, My Fresh Maine won the top prize—\$10,000.

With more than a dozen vendors, Garin, Josefsson, and VanValkenburg have come a long way since last spring. My-FreshMaine.com now offers products from butternut squash and foccacia to handmade alpaca socks and healing hand cream.

"They came in and gave us a model that works for our business," said Karl Rau, owner of Good Bread in Newport, Maine. "I thought, yeah, I'll give these guys a shot." My Fresh Maine has allowed Rau's small farm and bakeshop to share its artisanal breads with customers online, a venture he had hoped to undertake when he began baking bread.

As it continues to attract more vendors and buyers, My Fresh Maine is working on a more advanced ordering system and hopes to become a long-term business.

This semester Garin is studying in the United Kingdom and VanValkenburg is studying in Jordan, leaving Josefsson to manage the company's operations from his dorm room in the fall. "This, right here, is the entire business: my cell phone and my laptop," he said with a laugh. "It's been a great learning experience, and, as cliché as it sounds, the most valuable thing is realizing that you can do it." —*Dash Wasserman '12*



The Anthropology of Air Travel

Assistant Professor of Anthropology and African-American Studies Chandra D. Bhimull has been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship to continue her study of connections among airline travel, diaspora, and empire.

Bhimull will be in residence at the National Air and Space Museum at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., beginning second semester. She will continue work on her book manuscript, *Empire in the Air: Speed, Perception, and the Geometry of Flight*.

The Air and Space Museum is an appropriate backdrop for Bhimull's research, which focuses on Imperial Airways (predecessor of British Airways), the ways the airline was bolstered by British Caribbean colonies between the World Wars, and how the lives of Caribbean people were shaped by airline travel. Bhimull, whose parents moved to the United States from Trinidad and the British Virgin Islands, continued to visit family there, has researched the role of the West Indies in development of flight routes from Britain to the United States and how air travel affected the evolution of empire.

She describes her book manuscript as "an historical ethnography of airspace in the Atlantic world." And, just as air travel is in many ways boundless, Bhimull's research and curiosity are the starting point for consideration of the myriad ramifications of "upward power and culture in the air."

Bhimull raises intriguing questions about what some might see as commonplace. Airline travel is now ordinary, she points out, but on closer consideration, there's nothing ordinary about, as Bhimull puts it, "dwelling in the sky."

"When people say, 'How was your trip?'" you explain what you did before and what you did after, on the ground, but what about that whole multiple hours in the air? What did you do? And how did you experience that? What was it like to sit beside a complete stranger?"

For Bhimull, cultural considerations don't end when we leave the ground. For example, she has studied the first air travelers who, after flying over colonized people, felt that they "knew" the people and place, though they hadn't visited.

Her fascination with "vertical travel" extends to experiences travelers have today. "Think about culture, not necessarily grounded, per se, but think about culture in the air—how a community, albeit one that's very transient, forms," she said. "What kinds of rights do people think they're entitled to on board? What does it mean if you're on an extended flight and you need to pray? Where do you do that in the air? Is it your right to do that? Should the airline provide a space for you?"

For Bhimull, the questions are as endless as the sky itself.

—*Gerry Boyle '78*



PHOTO BY JEFF POULAND

Assistant Professor of Anthropology and African-American Studies
Chandra D. Bhimull

Oak Fellow Fights India's Caste System

At age 11 Fatima Burnad was already making trouble for civil authorities. In southern India, where Burnad grew up, one of her friends was burned and beaten by the family that employed her as a maid. When the girl complained to the police but was taken right back to work, Burnad was so outraged she wrote up a petition of protest, collected signatures around the neighborhood, and presented it to the police.

So began a lifetime of activism that led to more than one incarceration—and to Burnad being named the 2011 Oak Human Rights Fellow at Colby. The fellowship offers a semester of respite for research, teaching, and writing and is awarded to one front-line human rights activist each year.

For 35 years Burnad, 59, has worked to end India's caste system and discrimination against the Dalit (sometimes called "Untouchables") and tribal people. Those groups, which make up 24 percent of India's population, are routinely excluded and marginalized. Affirmative action has led to educational opportunities, said Burnad. But, despite degrees and credentials, Dalits and tribal people are denied interviews, not to mention actual employment in government and private sectors, because their names reveal their caste.

"The Dalit will get the fourth-class job. First, second, third is



PHOTO BY CHRIS BENNETT

Oak Fellow Fatima Burnad

occupied by the higher castes, so Dalits are always at the bottom," said Burnad, herself a Dalit. The result: the Dalit people remain poor and largely landless—and afraid to challenge the status quo. "If a Dalit girl is raped, only the Dalit are raising their voice. ... Only the Dalit women—the Dalit men do not take it as a problem."

In 1979 Burnad founded the Society for Rural Education and Development, which seeks economic opportunity and political influence for the marginalized people of India, especially Dalit women. She is now recognized as a national leader in India's social movements.

Burnad was jailed for protesting land grabs by the government when it displaced Dalits to build a naval air station. "They were all the time talking about national security," she said. "For us, people security is very important."

Soon after arriving at Colby she was using the Internet to mobilize allies to protest the planned execution of Sri Lankans implicated in the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi. She also looked ahead to her semester on campus. "I want to read and write and then, in seminars, to learn from the students what their reactions are to what I'm doing," Burnad said.

Her goal—to take her activism to a new level. "I want this college to help me to see a proper way of doing things." —S.C.

If the Ring Fits ...

It was Sept. 15. Officer Scott D. Uhlman of the Brockton (Mass.) Police Department was talking to an evidence officer at police headquarters. The officer's desk drawer was open, and Uhlman spotted a college ring originally brought in with some stolen jewelry recovered in the 1980s.

Uhlman saw that it was from Colby, Class of 1978. The initials were KAC with Greek letters etched in the stone. "I looked at it and I said, 'Hey, can I see if I can return this to the guy?'" Uhlman said. Turns out this cop was a bit of a ringer.

Uhlman's hobby is metal detecting, sweeping beaches and parks for jewelry and coins. He even has a submersible metal detector he uses at the beach in Florida. "The ocean has a tendency to suck things off of people," he said.

He's found four other school rings and returned three. "One of them was from a Catholic school from 1932 that's since

closed and the building is demolished." That ring he still has.

So Uhlman went online. He found "the director of alumni data or whatever her title is. I said, 'That's the lady. She'll know.'"

The lady was Martha McCarthy, who once also had the informal title FINDER of Lost Alumni. Uhlman gave McCarthy the class year and initials. She asked where he'd found it and he replied, "I could tell you but I'd have to kill you." And laughed.

McCarthy ran a database search and within five minutes was on the phone with Kurt Cerulli '78, who runs a financial services company in Boston. "I said, 'This might seem strange, but have you lost your Colby ring?'"

Cerulli picks up the tale: "I said, 'Well, it is possible, but it was stolen thirty-two years ago.'"

He was a student at Boston University



law school. "I was at the bowling alley at BU. I took off my ring and my wallet and my college roommate's Colby letter jacket. I put them on the back of my chair when I went up to bowl, and when I turned around they were gone."

The jacket and wallet never turned up. But the ring arrived in the mail Sept. 18. "I ordinarily wouldn't think of wearing a college ring at this stage of my life, but I couldn't resist putting it on," Cerulli said. "And I'm still wearing it."

Cerulli wrote the Brockton police chief a note commending Uhlman, but Officer Uhlman shrugged off the praise. "Hey," he said. "It's not like a piece of costume jewelry where you can look at it and say, 'Ah, that's junk. Just throw it away.' It's important to somebody." —G.B.

TwitterFEED

A selection of tweets from @colbycollege. To see links, catch up on tweets, or sign up, click the Twitter icon on the Colby homepage.

Cover story in new @TheAtlantic, "All the Single Ladies," is by @katebolick, Colby '95. "What, Me Marry?"

Oct. 12

Crash Course: a fine little essay re: tricks Dash Wasserman '12 learned on a Marketplace internship | insideColby

Oct. 8

C-SPAN2 Book TV interviews Prof. Elizabeth Leonard (history) on her latest: Lincoln's Forgotten Ally | 7-min. video

Oct. 5

2010-11 was a big year for endowments at Maine's private colleges. Colby's grew by >\$100M VP Doug Terp '84 tells MPBN

Oct. 5

David Amadu '07, now in med school, worked in Nobel-winner Ralph Steinman's lab and coauthored this paper with him

Oct. 4

NPR's Scott Simon taps Prof. Tony Corrado to explain why It's A Slow Season For Campaign Fundraising. Weekend Edition

Oct. 1

Mark Serdjenian '73, captain of the mule team in '72, got his 250th win as men's soccer coach Wednesday | Sentinel

Sept. 29

Stage a complete musical after just a week of school? InsideColby's Josephine Liang '14 walks us through the madness

Sept. 20

What do new students need to know? Video of what Bro Adams and Deans Kletzer and Terhune told them at First Steps

Sept. 7

New Maisel Fund Opens Doors to the World

The BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir is a tourist attraction that has become, as Sandhya Fuchs '12 puts it, "like a symbol for multi-cultural London."

The Neasden Temple, as it is known, includes a traditional Hindu temple, with gleaming domes, pillars, and pinnacles. Fuchs noticed that the complex, which also includes a top-ranked independent school, was often in media discus-

sions of Hinduism, and it had come to stand for the Hindu community in London or even Britain. "What I decided ... is that [temple officials] are very good at taking discourses and values that are very much accepted in the British context," Fuchs said—monotheism, charitable giving, even school spirit, for example—"and integrating them into the way they present their religion."

The anthropology major from Germany did research at the Mandir last summer as part of her honors thesis—and it was made possible by the Sandy Maisel Goldfarb Center Student Research and Internship Fund. Fuchs is one of 14 recipients of grants from the fund,



PHOTO BY KYLE WEHNER '14

Professor of Government Sandy Maisel

established in honor of William R. Kenan Professor of Government Sandy Maisel. The fund offers grants to students for independent study that they would otherwise be unable to afford.

The fund was established by five of Maisel's former students, four of whom were staffers on his unsuccessful run for Congress in 1978. The four—Dan Hoefle '78, Susan Kenyon '78, Doug

Kaplan '78, and Jeff Shribman '78—and classmate and friend Alan Donnenfeld '78, approached Maisel's wife, Grossman Professor of Economics Patrice Franko, about doing something to honor the longtime friendship. The Maisel Fund was born, inspired by the Goldfarb Challenge, established by William H. Goldfarb '68, P'00.

"It was really humbling to be part of the process and see these young kids coming up and doing wonderful things," said Hoefle, a Portsmouth, N.H., attorney. "It just makes us all feel very good about our experience at Colby and the impact Sandy had on our lives." —G.B.



PHOTO BY BRIAN SPEER

Goodbye, Oil (Almost)

A biomass heating plant that will burn wood chips and forest waste to replace 90 percent of the 1.1 million gallons of heating oil Colby has used annually will be fully operational by the end of the calendar year. The plant is located on Campus Drive, between the Alford Athletic Center and the Bill Alford Field.